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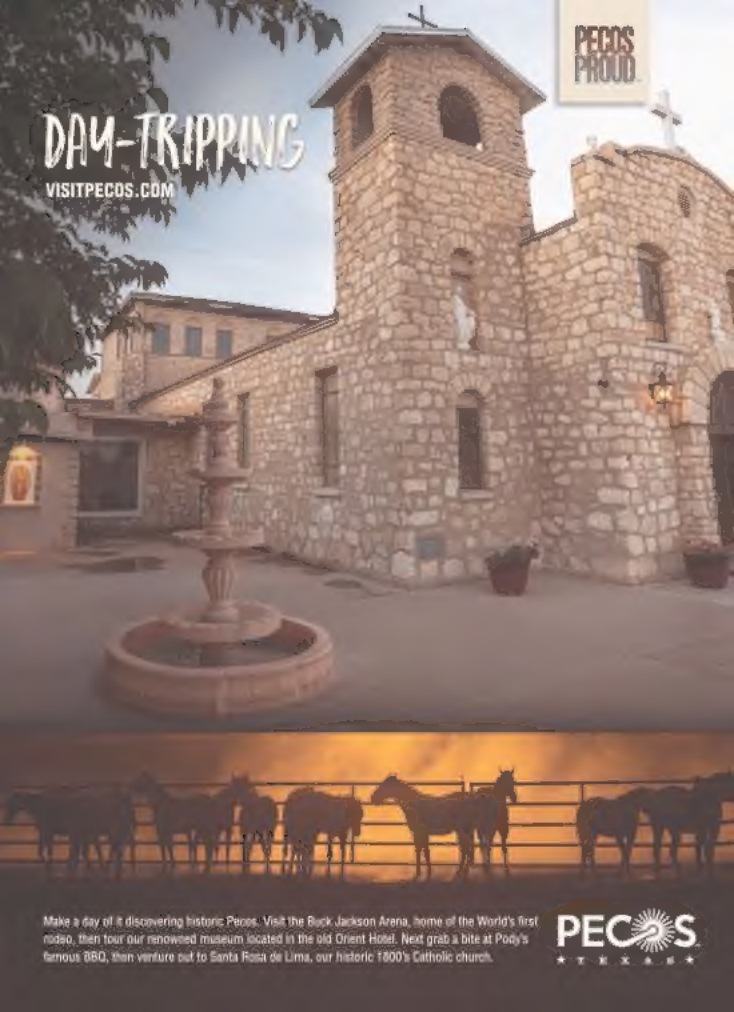

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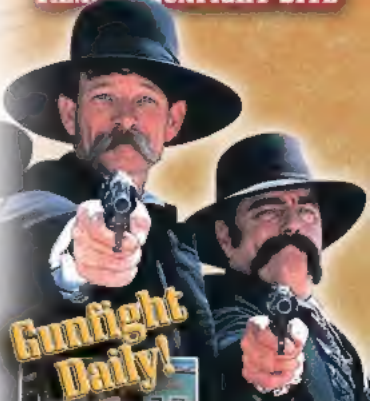

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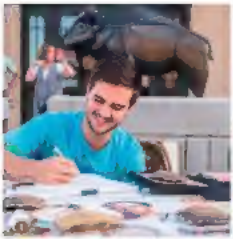

Sheridan
WYOMING

EXPERIENCE SHERIDAN'S HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS IN 48 WHIRLWIND HOURS

Day 1. Rise and shine in the 'Sitting Bull Room' or 'Wild Bill Hickok' suite at the Sheridan Inn (2). Buffalo Bill's former stomping grounds. Each room at the inn is unique and named for important figures in Bill Cody's life. Have a bite at the Flagstaff Cafe; after breakfast take a drive to the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, the site of the 1876 battle between Custer's 7th Cavalry and a combined Lakota-Northern Cheyenne and Arapaho force. Return to Sheridan and enjoy the old west marvels at the Don King Museum (3). The museum features rare firearms, horse-drawn hearses, an old west photo archive, a vast collection of hand-crafted saddles, ropes and leather work, Indian artifacts, and much more.

Before dinner, tour the Trail End State Historic Site (4). Built in Flemish Revival style, the Trail End mansion provides an elegantly different vision of Sheridan's rich and colorful history. Sit down for supper at the Cowboy Cafe or birch Restaurant for a taste of wild Wyoming fare or fine western dining, respectively. Day 2. Rise to beat the crowds of history buffs and tour Indian battle sites and former military posts, including the Rosebud and Custer Battlefields, the site of the Wagon Box Fight, and finally picturesque Fort Phil Kearny, located on the Bozeman Trail (6). The new Skylab at Fort Phil is a thrill for stargazers. After lunch, plan to spend a few hours exploring The Brinton Museum (5) in Big Horn for a look at one of the most robust collections of Indian and western artifacts in the United States.

Save plenty of time to shop Historic Downtown Sheridan (1). Visit Crazy Woman Trading Co., High Mountain Mercantile, Sheridan Stationary and Books, Tom Balding Bits and Spurs, the Bozeman Gallery, Brian's Boots and other western-centric boutiques and galleries. Downtown Sheridan features incredible public art, beautifully restored historic buildings, and the iconic WYO Theater, opened in 1923. Grab lunch at Frackelton's or Java Moon, then visit the Sheridan County Museum; the museum boasts a robust archive of historical images, artifacts and letters, and serves as an excellent exclamation point on your tour. Enjoy Happy Hour at Blackfoot Brewery or The Mint Bar then dine downtown. After dinner, kick up your boots on the porch of the Historic Sheridan Inn the way Buffalo Bill once did, and watch the sun set on your time in Sheridan.

For additional itineraries, history and bit bites of the icons and outlaws of Sheridan visit us at sheridanwyoming.org.

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Texas Rangers

Company gathered for a photo while out for a scout in 1892, possibly during the border troubles of the Cortina War along the Rio Grande. The Rangers on the far left are identified as Fullerton and Saville.

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True West captures the spirit of the West with authentic personalities and historical storytelling that will link you to our shared past.

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COMPILED BY ROBERT RAY

Quotes

"I see America, not in the setting sun of a black night of despair ahead of us, I see America in the crimson light of a rising sun fresh from the morning, creative hand of God. I see great days ahead, great days possible to men and women of will and vision."

–Carl Sandburg, American writer and editor

"The Internet: whose idea was it to put all the idiots on earth in touch with each other?"

P.J. O'Rourke, political satirist and journalist

"History is open to interpretation, but it isn't a toy dog you can make leap however you like."

Neil Steinberg, author and news columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times

"It's like a family reunion of sorts, only here everybody likes each other."

Paul Zarzyski, cowboy poet on the Elko Cowboy Poetry Gathering

"We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save our country."

–Abraham Lincoln, 1862

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO

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Being a couple that lives together and works together can be very challenging.
COUPLES COUNSELING 101
DAN PIRARO 2011

"Civilization is a stream with banks. The stream is sometimes filled with blood from people killing, stealing, shouting and doing the things historians usually record while on the banks, unnoticed, people build homes, make love, raise children, sing songs, write poetry and even whittle statues. The story of civilization is the story of what happened on the banks."

– Will Durant, American writer, historian, and philosopher

"Most historical facts are unpleasant."

Aldous Huxley, English writer, novelist and philosopher

Old Vaquero Saying

"Schizophrenia beats dining alone."

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Crazy Connections

Tying together Big Foot Wallace, Frank Hamer and Billy the Kid. Oh, and John Fusco.

My family is proud to claim two heroes: the legendary Texan Big Foot Wallace and, so was pleasantly surprised to see that Frank Hamer, another Texas legend, also had a thing for Big Foot, see, at right.

This issue is chock full of these kinds of crazy connections, including Hamer's long history in the Rangers, capped by coming out of retirement to take down Bonnie and Clyde.

Its hero's work then inspired by a Hamer protégé in the Warren Beatty *Bonnie and Clyde* (1967) movie. Then the Hamer accolades with the announcement of our True Westerner of 2018 Award going to Robert Fuller, who starred as Jesse with Billy the Kid *Young Guns* (1988) and *Young Guns II* (1990), as a prelude to redeem the Hamer name (see Emily C. Parker's article, p. 36). Not to mention the Hamer connections between Pancho Villa and Walter Noble Burns. And, yes, as you shall see in this issue, they are all connected!

After a long and difficult struggle, Agent Meghan Saar is readying to seek other challenges. We have always been aware of her fierce tenacity and passion for seeking the truth, wherever it may lead. She will be missed.

A new era at *True West* magazine is beginning, with the hiring of Peter Brown as our new editor, and, who along with senior editor Mike Hendricks will set the new editorial team leadership going forward. We are expecting great things from both of them.

I have a hunch you will be seeing even more amazing and crazy connections going forward.

Frank Hamer, above left, poses with Big Foot Wallace's rifle. Right, the real Big Foot, circa 1870, and Hamer, in uniform, at his west Texas ranch, right, after the retired Texas Ranger

HUTTON HITS A NERVE

Paul Andrew Hutton's outstanding, "When History Was True," which ran in the November, 2004 issue received the most response of any article we have run in the past 10 years. Here slightly edited for space, are just a few of the comments we have received.

In my opinion, Paul Hutton's piece on "When the West was True," may be as significant as Frederick Jackson Turner's "The Significance of the Frontier in American History." It should be read.

Doug Hocking, North Vista, AZ

As a long-time Hutton's contemporary, I wonder me relieved at least I have progressed the history of the American West over the years. I have lost my focus on all the incredible American heroes that have helped define the West and the country as a whole. My goal is to recapture the focus on the incredible stories of the West regardless of the current attack on our Western heritage. Thank you for all you have done to keep the true west alive.

—James Kohl, Colorado Springs, CO

I much appreciated your "When the West Was True" piece in the Novuthber issue of *True West*. The burgeoning revisionism of our history is Orwellian. Sentimental, and just plain dangerous. Those who control the past control the present and direct the future. In that respect the power over what the hoi polloi petitioners and forgets, and therefore deems a culture's ideal, be besides.

As I read your article I was reminded of when years ago some concerned industries wanted to relocate the Alamo to make way for a much more profitable use for a major commercial development. The good folks of San Antonio fought it and they won. Yet while there was a victory in battle, the national war waged on.

Sour for the future of our nation. I'm 60 years old, about my children's and with that, the history and legends that have made America, for good or ill.

John N. Holliday, Clarkdale, AZ

Enjoyed Paul Andrew Hutton's article about the true history of the West and how it is being re-written, if not lost, to this new world. It

speaks that the only constant is change and apparently that even goes for history.

Thom Ross, Largo, MD

I must express my appreciation of the Paul Hutton commentary speaking up about how writers is being changed before our very eyes and minds by under siege. Jacob Haybuhl's more scholar article in his article "Battling History in the Fall 2004 issue of *Nathaniel Parks Magazine*. He writes of how our present views change our view of the past.

"History, and the people whom we celebrate or vilify, are complicated."

Had he thought years ago that when we moved into our "Information Age" that the days of pulling the wool over someone's eyes were over. These days any claim can be verified in seconds. Yet it now seems to be fashionable to create lies. It is like we have the power of God almighty, just speak the words and they become real. In a sense it is true. I might accept that one of our forefathers deserved his family. Note that I did not even put a name to this falsehood and yet someone will read this and be lost on the trail to identify this person. My falsehood has become real, just one.

In recent years it seems that a book has been pulled off an old wound. By being a fairly close example of an old white man, I try to not make things worse and I must choose carefully what history I present to the public And on what I am doing is being an editor and in a sense, shutting this history. Is that the right approach? As experienced interpreters should be able to tell his audience mistakes, lies, thievery, murder and massacre are a part of what we all come from. How can we learn from these if we hide or change them"

Ace Bohrod, Conifer, CO

Paul Andrew Hutton's famous, "When the West Was True" glosses over not only the realities of American history, but recent Western historiography. The "issue of national dimension" he deplores is neither new nor by our country's historical standards particularly disreputable. You wage discovery—the good kind not the bad kind—explains the American republican, the Whiskey Rebellion, the expansion of the right to vote, slavery, Indian Wars (race record, abolitionism, ethnic massacres (Catastrophe, border wars, range wars (cattle, the Civil War, anti-draft riots, the Palmer Raids (labor management violence (the sheep were the sheep, didn't go to war, the entitlement (the pig-tussy, the anti-lynching movement (one discard leads to another), the Comstock Law (which made just about any "utterance" related matter or moral decline illegal), the Free Love Movement (which discriminately fought Comstock; and, in case you hadn't noticed, until the mid-eighties, three separate Klans (which collectively assaulted blacks, Jews, atheists and immigrants in the 1860s, 1920s and 1960s), the Great Depression, Japanese Internment, 1950s rock and roll (1970s trailed, preachers weep), the McCarthy era, segregation and Jim Crow laws, the Civil Rights movement, the mail-Vietnam war campaign, Watergate, the Tea Party movement, Black Lives Matter #SinTax and so on.

Democracy is messy, and as Churchill is often quoted. Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time. would add that history is not supposed to be soothing. For unity we have myths. History is simply the study of past events, based on the best available evidence.

Look at the bright side there is more excellent history being written today about America in general and the West in particular than ever before, much by True West writers like Hutton, whose last book, *The Apache Wars*, was published to much acclaim.

Samuel Ward, Washington, DC

Thank you for the reassessment! The revisions of American history, especially the Western march is becoming the Black Death of our National being. Hutton said it all and he said it right.

Samuel Roger Vogt, USAF (Ret.), East Liverpool, OH

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BY MARK BOARDMAN

The Death of the Man Who Killed the Man Who Killed Jesse James

Killer Ed O'Kelley's short-lived fame ended in a fatal fight with police

Ed O'Kelley saw his ability to kill as a matter of honor. He walked into a [illegible] saloon in Reede, Oklahoma, and emptied two shotgun barrels into the back of the proprietor. The victim had supposedly insulted Ed's friend. The duty of the moment was clear, and O'Kelley killed without flinching. It was not clear why O'Kelley killed Faith—maybe to avenge Jesse, perhaps to get some publicity. But it set him on a path that would result in his most infamous death in a Western town more than a decade later.

Three sheriff's deputies were killed in the line of duty between 1900 and 1902. Most of the murders were committed by men who had been in jail for drunkenness or petty theft. Each was shocked to be killed in a fight that was considered an act of murder and sentenced to life in prison. That was the case with Jesse James' younger brother, Frank, who was released from prison in 1902 after a campaign by some of his friends and supporters. Frank James died of natural causes in 1915.

On January 23, 1904, Kelley was arrested by another officer. It is not clear why, but soon he was released. Apparently he was watching Burnett, and seeing him in the encountered Officer Burnett, he became infuriated, as a shot at Burnett, missing. Burnett returned fire, killing Kelley with a single shot.

In response, O'Kelley pulled a pistol and began hitting the policeman, cursing the cop and shouting that he was going to kill him.

The two wrestled to the ground. O'Kelley freed his gun hand several times but never hit his target. After he got some into the battle in the process. In the meantime, Burnett, [illegible] pummeling Kelley, [illegible] himself as having a Hawaiian Nobody assisted Kelley out of [illegible] began hitting Burnett's ears.

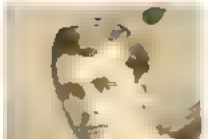
An Kelley got happened upon the scene and took a shot at the officer but when he missed the [illegible] fired a [illegible] several. Police were enlisted, but before they could get there the battle came to a sudden end [illegible] baggage man Ace Pratt jumped in to assist Burnett, grabbing O'Kelley's arm. That allowed [illegible] to pull his own gun and fire twice. One bullet hit his attacker in the leg. The other hit him in the left temple killing him instantly.

O'Kelley's body was taken to the mortuary. It stayed there for two weeks as no family would claim it. Finally, he was buried [illegible] remains at Fairlawn Cemetery. There was no marker. The burial was [illegible]. Today, visitors to Fairlawn can see a headstone engraved with O'Kelley's image placed by the Oklahoma Outlaws & Lawmen History Association to mark the outlaw's grave.

Ed O'Kelley, the man who killed the man who killed Jesse James, may never have enjoyed his 15 minutes of fame. For all he [illegible] he got a lonely grave in Oklahoma City and a footnote in the history books.

JESSE JAMES

FRANK JAMES



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BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Lost and Found in American History

Nebraska had long searched for this piece of its heritage

For 164 years, it was lost. Then they found it. Virtually. Literally. And finally. Then they placed cradling boots — the first of 435. Then an early 1800s artifact guard, and then they knew. Nebraska archaeologists had found the exact spot of a very special winter camp that was ruined Engineer Cantonment.

The discovery in 2004 was no special Nebraska State Archaeological Society. Although the initial task — to locate only that Engineer Cantonment has been found.

As the name implies, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built the cantonment in 1819 and 1820 as a base for the Yellowstone Expedition. The expedition was the first government-sponsored scientific expedition to study the area's native people, animals and plants. Western explorers — the first steamboat to ascend the Missouri.

The expedition's chief military officer, Major Stephen Harriman Long, and included artist Titian Peale. Their illustrations of the area were the single most important clue to the cantonment's location. The initial descriptions matched a small map it was in the west bank of the Missouri with limestone cliffs up to 40 feet at the river and was about half a mile about Fort Lisa, that there was a large and extensive Indian trading establishment. But also, the location of Fort Lisa has not to the disappeared and over the years, since and the river-shifting, banks of the Missouri had erased any trace of the cantonment that included two log buildings and various outdoor work and cook areas.

What was left was the imprint of what a small group of men did during the cold winter in the early 1800s when the land was still part of the Louisiana Missouri Territory. Among their discoveries were 40 fire pits, two glades, one small privies, three smaller log hearths and six peanonials, including the coyote.

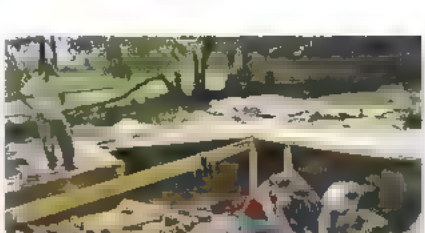
Even more significant was the information gathered about the Plains tribes that populated the area — Omaha, Pawnee, Iowa, Missouria and Otoe.

The visitors of how these people were the Lisa. Hardly ever — was it just land that Indians have become part of the country 10 years earlier at the Louisiana Purchase. They didn't always talk the same. They practiced the first detailed maps of the areas they visited. In the spring they went west but the Rocky Mountains but what they saw of present-day Nebraska led them to label the area a Great American Desert — a message that was repeated on maps for decades.

The location was finally clear, armed with the help of mechanical drawings that uncovered in one part of the site more than 700 artifacts. More excavations are planned.

Over the years the area has been part of the land of Sioux and Oheta — Great, who donated the site to the Nebraska State Historical Foundation.

Nebraska History magazine thought the discovery so small, it devoted an entire issue to the lost and found Engineer Cantonment in the spring of 2013.



In 2004, (l. r.) Tony Schaumberg, Amanda Overy, Penner and Ken Hennessey were part of the Nebraska team that excavated the Long Expedition Cantonment, discovering hundreds of artifacts, from the soldiers' long expedition, as well as camp insect, and its fireplace, although the finds was in the cantonment site from the early 1800s, excavations discovered evidence of more artifacts along the older and an 800-year-old American Indian camp buried about six feet below.

Jana Bommersbach has covered crime and politics in Arizona and is the author of the true stories of Helen Smith, Arizona's first female sheriff, the crime of Joan Hall Hotrum, Phoenix's first police officer, and the true story of the Pinkerton's Tucson war and the lawsuit that followed.

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BRIAN LEBEL'S OLD WEST EVENTS

BY SHERRY MONAHAN

Reel or Real Frontier Fare

Another helping for Hoss

The actors plate their food differently from the real Westerners. (Pictured, from left, Doug Jones as Percy, Adam Fairington as Pa and Roberts as Hoss, Dan Blocker as Little Joe, Michael Landon as Ben Cartwright, Lorne Greene as Pa)

If you're reading this then you've likely seen a Western. So, does the food on the big screen compare to the real West? Let's dissect some food scenes from then and now.

In John Ford's *The Searchers*, Ward Bond's character, Captain Clayton, enters a saloon where there are seven gunslingers and orders the saloon "Oil, slaughter. Thank you, sir. I'm sure fond of them doughnuts." While this scene does get some extraordinarily because doughnuts were commonly made by pioneers, doughnuts are rarely depicted as frontier fare in Westerns. In Ford's *My Darling Clementine*, Mimi Gaye is shown carving chicken for his dinner guests in a restaurant. This scene is completely wrong. Tombstone had sophisticated restaurants and its patrons would have carved their own meat.

The movie *High Plains Drifter* is set in a frontier town, where Marshall Duncan (Buddy Van Horn) and the townspeople struggle over the slaughtered cattle. Duncan tells the townspeople to "Get me some coffee and biscuits for lunch." During the movie scene they serve up fried beef, beans, potatoes, corn and whiskey. When Duncan takes over the hotel he orders, "Chicken fried, with the fried potatoes and gravy. Apple pie in his bill of fare." Duncan is in his bill of fare, *Pale Rider*. Einstein and a character are usually hot, eating eggs and biscuits for breakfast. His horses serve a snippet of Dr. Quinn, which is a pioneer way of cooking, neither eats it meat and feeding not real people. Despite the safe scene there's a quick shot of a "full of fare" that shows plots steak. Tender sirloin porterhouse, ham and eggs, bacon and pork and beans. While these are accurate it is likely they would have served more than just beef.

The TV series about the same set in the rich, silver mining town Virginia City, Nevada. Its atmosphere is safe, as it tells the fun customer, the only thing on the menu is cooked stew and pecan. With a variety of restaurants named Ryan's Delmonico's, Adam's Eating Stand, St. Louis Breakfast

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In addition, Wine Lover Hideaway and The Vintner's Table Restaurant and Tasting House invite romantic travelers to rent a small house in the vineyards of Sierra Foothills Winery for a night or a week. Guests will be treated to a welcome basket of local wine, cheese and fruit, and a private tasting with all of the regional wines. The French Restaurant offers a wine dinner with a five-course meal and wine pairing for each course. On another episode, an Italian Restaurant hosts a wine dinner featuring Italian food and wine. At the end of the episode, the host highlights Chinese food and suggests a Chinese wine pairing.

These shows and others also intermittently use the tables with china, tablecloths and silverware to set a very nice table and make the dishes look more appetizing.

Sherry Richardson is a food writer living in Texas. She has written for numerous publications, including Texas Monthly, Saveur and Food & Wine. She is currently working on a book about food and TV appearances.

CHICKEN CACCIATORE

Serves 4 to 6

Adapted from Emeril Lagasse

½ cup dried Italian mushrooms
1 cup of red wine
2 3-4 lb. chicken, cut up
black pepper as needed
salt as needed
¼ cup of extra virgin oil
1 sprig of rosemary
2 onions
4 clove garlic
¼ cup fresh parsley
2 tbsp. tomato paste

Soak the mushrooms in the wine until softened. Add pepper, chicken to the pan and brown on all sides. Add the mushrooms and wine and bring to a boil. Add the onions, garlic and parsley and cook for about 30 minutes. Add the tomato paste to thicken the sauce and cook for about 10 to 15 minutes until the sauce is thick. Serve with pasta.

Recipe adapted from the San Francisco Chronicle March 21, 1999

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Hit by a Volcano

No state in the union could beat his ashy adventure on Lassen Peak

On May 30, 1914, Lassen Peak became active for the first time in 200 years. Ash, rocks, and steam spewed from the mountain's crater, and lightning danced through the clouds above it. Eight miles to the east was Ingomar, a small lumber camp. Most of the residents left town for good, returning after to recover his body, but found him alive, which only deepened the mystery.

Lassen Peak is a dormant volcano in northern California. The volcano's plume above it was massive visible even in San Francisco, more than 200 miles away. Graham called out to Phelps and Tipple, but they were long gone, running, sliding and stumbling their way to safety.

Born in neighboring Tehama County in 1864, Graham had claimed his homestead in the Shasta County village of Viola in 1901 and worked as a lumberman while proving up his claim. To have the risk of filing it due size, the newspapers made a big deal of the exceptions to establishing requirements on the Land Office Prospect.

After close to 300 years of dormancy, Lassen Peak had rumbled to life two weeks earlier on May 30, 1914. The eruptions began hiking up to Hodge's Cabin on a small pass that leads able to reach the climber.

Once the rain of ice had ended, Phelps and Tipple made their way back up the mountain with several other men to recover Graham's body. They were stunned to find him alive, writhing in pain and moaning, blood was icing into the snow around him.

Using a blanket as a makeshift stretcher, the men carried Graham down the mountain and to a doctor in Shasta City almost overnight. A surgeon removed a piece of his shoulder blade and sutured the gash in his chest shut, but was not optimistic about Graham's chance of survival, so he told the Associated Press newspaper [illegible] Graham is still alive but was seriously injured he is expected to die within a few months.

The Los Angeles Herald, more concerned with getting the scoop, printed that Graham had died.

Yet Graham pulled through. When he regained consciousness, he told reporters his story. "Just as I turned to leave the crater's rim, there was a puff of blue smoke different to a tongue of red flame that resembles the discharge from an ordinary cannon," started to march my way down the mountain, but in a short I was enveloped in a cloud of smoke while a perfect hail of small, female stones and cinders beat down upon me."

He later continued, "I wasn't scared a bit, but admitted. 'I'll never climb that peak again.'

The next year in April 1915, Tehama County's city leaders hosted a pleasure at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco, saying, "He will be the only man there that was ever hit by an active Modern American volcano and will be a subject that no state in the union can steal from us."

Tragically, the state of Washington did steal that feature from California in 1980, when the eruption of Mount St. Helens killed more than 57 people.

Graham lived out his days as a respected businessman in Tehama County until he died quietly in 1950.

E.E. Phelps and F.A. Tipple left Lassen [illegible] for their [illegible] in search of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Lieutenant Hans Christen became the first known American to receive a volunteer exception for the United States when he was struck by a flying rock as he and friends were peering over Lassen Peak's Chaos Crags the just before his eruption on May 30, 1914. Left for dead, Lieutenant was later rescued and analyzed to find a full life despite his severe injuries.

THE BEST OF THE TEXAS RANGERS

IN PHOTOS · IN FACT · IN FICTION

AND A TWISTED TRAIL FROM BILLY THE KID TO BONNIE & CLYDE

Here for your Best of the West reading pleasure is an epic 24-page romp through some amazing connections that will take you from the horseback-riding Texas Rangers to the Mexican Revolution, to Hollywood and back again. It's a story of breathtaking turns and bizarre coincidences, proving the Father of the National Parks, John Muir, was correct: "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe."

THE BEST OF THE TEXAS RANGERS IN PHOTOS

THERE ARE MANY, MANY ICONIC IMAGES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS, BUT HERE ARE MY 12 FAVORITES AND WHY

BY BOB ALEXANDER

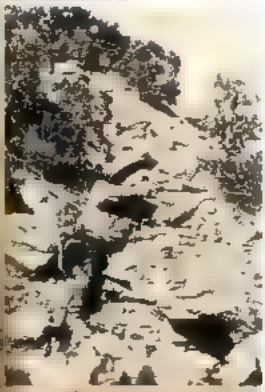
This photo of company C-era Rangers is one of seven similar photographs that may be a study for a group photo. The men were shot at Camp Mabry, the headquarters of the most prominent Texas Rangers assigned to the state's governor, in Austin. The men, standing, seated, from left: Jim Kemp, name unknown, Ernest Rogers, Al Allen, Walter Jones, Charles Ingraham, name unknown, Walter Duncan, Bill Hanson, Frank Hughes and Hans (Boss) Tullos.

COURTESY TEXAS RANGER HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

Although he looks more like a bandleader in this posed photo, Dave Allison was the real deal. Friends and co-workers alike described him as a career lawman who knew no fear.

COURTESY TEXAS RANGER HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

Texas Ranger Epi[illegible] Wallace Durbin at right is a big ball game. [illegible] Originally through a few [illegible] old days a little rowdy and dangerous when drinking. Private Wood southern at left [illegible] cooperate with both courts. This is one of my favorite photos because it shows how both Rangers carried their six-shooter. Note gun forward in the belt on the left. This was a quick method of drawing a strong hand cross-draw.



This month's Battalion photograph never actually remained "one" man per picture. Sheriffs, outlaws, lawmen and ranchers all posed for the camera, but it was rare when more than two men stood "up" in Waco Texas when the Texas Rangers had their annual picnic. Above, from left, Robert "Bob" Speaks and Jim Putman (Putman, a member of Company D, 1st Texas Ranger Battalion, 1918–1919) and John R. Hughes. Ira Aten had recommended Hughes to the Texas Rangers after Hughes ably assisted him in the 1916 pursuit of murderer Mark Allers.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE DOBIE-PAISANO FELLOWSHIP

Frank Hamer (right) the Rangers in April 1906, patrolling the border under Captain Bill Rogers, comprising the same company he would later command in the 1930s.

COURTESY TEXAS RANGER HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM, WACO, TEXAS

This photo of Samuel H. "Sam" Newberry, a great-nephew of Charles Goodnight, shows the Texas Ranger making the transition to professional man, though dress. But even though he looks quite natty in the photo, folks could tell he was a dangerous man. Especially armed, Samuel would Newberry made sure the shutterbug had the Ranger's six-shooter Colt and fancy Mexican chap holster and cartridge belt in the frame.

COURTESY TEXAS RANGER MUSEUM COLLECTION, WACO, TEXAS, COURTESY TEXAS RANGER HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

Frank Hamer (back row, far left) is shown with his Texas Ranger Company "A" Alpine, Texas in 1910. The year after he enrolled with the Rangers. Pictured (standing, left to right) are Marvin Bailey and Dick Hudson. Seated in the front row, from far left, are Jeff White, Wallace Harrell, and John H. Rogers. Sitting (front, left to right) are John Gilbrell, [illegible], and Samuel H. Newberry.

Starkly lit, the adults were stacked against the unsuspecting cluster of women. At least five of these Company D Texas Rangers would die violently at the hands of others and ten that remain depicted among my top 39. Standing, from left: Tom King, Best Outlaw Riley Bunton, Charley Goodman, Link Dublin, Frank Rogers, Charles Barrett and Walter James. Seated, from left: Bob Bell, Lal Allen, Captain Jack Jones, James Walter Dutton, Jim Robinson and Frank Schirmer.

BEST TEXAS RANGER BOOKS BY BOB ALEXANDER

Among the many Texas Ranger books by the prolific author Bob Alexander here are two of his best. "Texas Rangers Lives, Legend & Legacy" co-authored with Donaly Brice and "Old Riot, New Ranger" Captain Frank Dean, Texas Ranger and U.S. Marshal" both published by the University of North Texas.

Company "D" Frontier Battalion Ranger Frank [illegible] is shown in an 1868 cabinet and tintype taken a year before he suffered a fatal gunshot wound that finally killed him in 1915. Shown in a similar pose, Joseph Walter Durbin served with Schmitt in Capt. Frank Jones's company D. Both cabinet cards were photographed in Rio Grande City, Texas, in 1868.

BEST WEST
OF THE BEST BOOK AND
BEST WESTERN EVER!
The complete version appeared in our April, 2016 issue

BY ALLEN BARRA

THE BEST OF THE TEXAS RANGERS

IN FICTION

Martin Scorsese once said, "More than 90 percent of directing is the right casting."

Lonesome Dove is the greatest Western miniseries ever made to deal with the Hollywood tradition. It's one of the greatest Western movies ever made. And its greatness is because of its casting.

We know that Larry McMurtry wanted to cast John Wayne as Woodrow Call and James Stewart as Augustus "Gus" McCrae. This might have worked in, say, the way that Wayne starred in 1968's *True Grit*, another Civil War–era Western. But it wouldn't have been great the way *Lonesome Dove* was great because Tommy Lee Jones and Robert Duvall were each cast for their star power but because they were Woodrow and Gus.

Not only the with Scorsese, one of the greatest directors of Eastern crime films, but all of a movie's success can be attributed to the actors. The other half is due to the script. McMurtry and William Wittliff wrote a miniseries, then a script, until it had the advantage of living, talking men out of the three greatest of all Western novels. Number one is Thomas Berger's *Little Big Man*, while Charles Portis's *True Grit* and McMurtry's *Lonesome Dove* are first and second, respectively.

The greatness of *Lonesome Dove* starts with its source material, and the material comes from a man who knows his subject.

In his essays on Texas, *In a Narrow Grave*, McMurtry correctly noted that movie Westerns "fails the myth when they dramatize the struggle between townsmen and ranchmen as the dominant skill."

The killing in *Lonesome Dove* is constantly regarded with a wry, sad humor of the kind that Mark Twain thought was essential to American storytelling, and which is woefully lacking from Westerns by highly regarded

"I hate rude behavior in a man. I won't tolerate it."

novelists such as Cormac McCarthy). The novel's famous first sentence (for instance: "When Augustus came out on the porch the blue pigs were rolling a rattlesnake—and a very big one").

McMurtry's Texas Rangers Mr. Cone can also be philosophical about killing, but without the pretensions of "civilized" civilization. He says to his partner, all: "I'd have stayed in Tennessee until the Yankees left a living. We ain't got much to work too well. We killed off most of the people that make the country interesting to organ with."

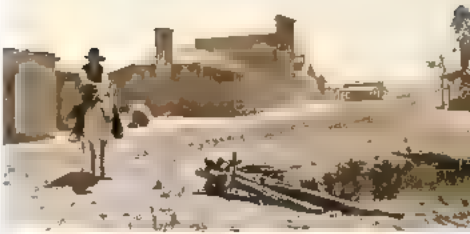
Mr. Cone anticipates Sigmund Freud's arguments in *Civilization and Its Discontents* by more than half a century.

McMurtry's tale is filled with sights and sounds and smells and observations about mundane subjects such as the impossibility of decorating a Dutch oven compared to how cooked it is on a campfire. A meal that depended on an outdoor cookstove would miss the simplest thrill of the unused scrutiny in Lonesome Dove. So we said have to wait out a long stretch of boredom and dust before he got to see anything so great.

Such observations could only come from a writer who knows the West firsthand and grew up with its traditions.

Actually, Swanson was being modest about the director's share of the credit for a great movie. Individual should get the casting, one-third to the script and source material, and one-third to the direction. Put it all together. Neither before nor after—or ever—have you known Swanson a great director, but at the right time he was great enough to know great scenes and great words when they came his way.

Allen Barra is the author of *Inventing Wyatt Earp: His Life and Many Legends*. He writes about sports for The Daily [illegible] and is a contributing writer to *American Heritage Magazine*. All the [illegible] like John Wayne, Marlon Brando, Montgomery Clift, and Kirk Douglas, were at Hawks's house for a screening of the film. It might be [illegible].



A trio of Texas Rangers, Robert Duvall's Gus McCrae, Tommy Lee Jones as Woodrow Call's Lonesome Dove, with Robert Duvall as Gus McCrae and Tommy Lee Jones as Woodrow Call

One Riot—One Ranger—A Hundred Books

The historical literature on the Texas Rangers is vast, insightful, and growing. The place to begin is with the two volumes by master historian Robert M. Utley: *Lone Star Justice: The First Century of the Texas Rangers* (2002) and *Lone Star Lawmen: The Second Century of the Texas Rangers* (2007). These remain the definitive history of the Rangers, updating but not supplanting Walter Prescott Webb's 1935 classic *The Texas Rangers: A Century of Frontier Defense*.

They retain the mythology and romance that often cloaked Webb, but they lack nonsensical or current revisionist rancor either. No student of this famed law enforcement agency can afford to ignore the many books by Ranger historian Mike Cox. The title assist with in his superb *The Texas Rangers: Wearing the Cinco Peso 1821–1900* (in 2000 new editions of his 1991 book). There have been considerable new scholarship on the history of the Rangers along the Rio Grande that portrays a much darker image of their activities, especially as it concerns the systematic abridgement of Hispanic rights. One of the best of these revisionist titles is Benjamin H. Johnson's *Revolution in Texas: How a Forgotten Rebellion and Its Bloody Suppression Turned Mexicans into Americans* (2003). For an excellent look at an earlier period of border conflict see Jerry Thompson's *Cortina: Defending the Mexican Name in Texas* (2013). There are many biographies of famous rangers. To name just a few, see Robert John C. Duval, *The Adventures of Big-Foot Wallace, the Texas Ranger and Hunter* (1870; Joseph Grant

Texas Ranger: *Jack Hays in the Frontier Southwest* (1974); Chuck Parsons and Marianne Hall Little, *Captain L. H. McNelly, Texas Ranger* (2001); Paul Spellman, *Captain John H. Rogers, Texas Ranger* (2003); Chuck Parsons, *Captain John R. Hughes, Lone Star Ranger* (2011); Harold J. Weiss, *Texas in Command: The Life and Legend of Ranger Captain Bill McDonald* (2009); and the recent bestseller by John Boessenecker, *Texas Ranger: The Epic Life of Frank Hamer, the Man Who Killed Bonnie and Clyde* (2016). For a recent overview of Ranger lore and Ranger history see the delightful *Texas Rangers: Lawn, Legends and Legacy* (2017) by Bob Alexander and Darwin Payne. Primary memoirs by Rangers are not as numerous as historians feel, but a surprising number are quite readable. Two stand out as classics for the 19th century are James B. Gillett, *Six Years with the Texas Rangers* (1921), and for the 20th century see Lonnie Jackson and David Marvin Wilkinson, *One Ranger: A Memoir* (2015). For topics in Western history can boast such a rich historiography as the Texas Rangers. It is a story to build and investigate as the Lone Star state itself.

Paul Andrew Hutton

A LONG AND TWISTED TRAIL

THE BYZANTINE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PANCHO VILLA, A CHICAGO REPORTER, BILLY THE KID, BONNIE & CLYDE AND BRUSHY BILL.

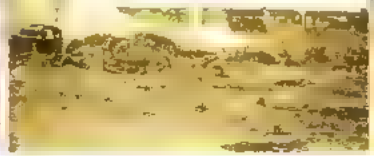
When you tug at the threads of history you will find it connected to some pretty disparate events. For example: If the United States government had not supported Carranza in the Mexican Revolution and allowed his troops to use U.S. rail lines between El Paso, Texas and Douglas, Arizona, Pancho Villa and his army would not have stumbled into a trap, near Agua Prieta, where the Carrancistas employed klieg lights in a night attack and mowed down Pancho's men with machine guns (over 5,000 were killed or captured.)

Pancho Villa raid's attacked
Columbus, New Mexico three would probably be
the Pivotal Event in Mexican-American History

following villistas raid Columbus villistas evacuate
their town and walk to a waiting train

The 8th Cavalry in U.S. during its Punitive expedition into
Mexico to capture and kill Pancho Villa, aided by troops of the
former Mexican

The ruins of the Commercial Hotel which was burned by
villistas during their raid on Columbus, New Mexico



And, if Patricia Villa hadn't become so frustrated by the obstacles that he decided to attack a [illegible] installation, a [illegible] newspaper crime reporter would have been dragged to Columbus, New Mexico, to do a story on the American invasion of the United States of America and the subsequent punitive expedition into Mexico mounted by Black Jack Pershing. And if that daring reporter hadn't followed up the story in El Paso, he, too, would have [illegible] other [illegible] editors for it [illegible] and been [illegible] alone. She [illegible] the bar. He would not have heard that it was the priest [illegible] that killed Billy the Kid. And if the [illegible] journalist hadn't asked, "Why is Billy the Kid?" the owner of the saloon wouldn't have told him that the kid was the most famous outlaw in New Mexico Territory [illegible] years ago, and if that crime writer hadn't checked, seven years later, to tell his sister, who was living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, he wouldn't have borrowed her car and driven 200 or 300 miles to interview Paulita Maxwell and others who knew the kid, and if he hadn't done those interviews he probably wouldn't have published his first book on the Mexican Outlaw. The Saga of Billy the Kid, by Walter Noble Burns, and it wouldn't have been a national best seller and capitalized on the long forgotten Billy. Bringing back into the spotlight, which eventually spawned movies, books and hundreds of books and articles.

The main connection. The incident of Walter Noble Burns' [illegible] was Thomas Catalina, who would later be New Mexico's governor and, who in 1950 would interview Pinkie Bill Roberts to determine if he was really Billy the Kid and grant his request for a pardon. Briefly [illegible] and Mabee, [illegible] grave the pardon. The [illegible] is that Pinkie Bill probably [illegible] of his information from [illegible] guessed it. [illegible] The Saga of Billy the Kid, by Walter Noble Burns

The Murphy Wallace saloon in downtown Lincoln was a favorite watering hole. One of the last gunfights happened here in December of 1908 when Maurice Clements was shot and killed. Clements was the brother of John Henry Tunstall. The saloon's favorite entertainment during prohibition before moving to Main Street where it operated until its closing in 1915

BILLY THE KID

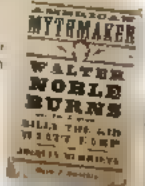
PAULITA MAXWELL

By Jack Jose Kelly, with additional reporting from Mark de Gurdon

BEST WEST

WALTER NOBLE BURNS

Bilmark's book tracks the elusive journalist and writer Walter Noble Burns through his bizarre quest for the most famous outlaw in American history



65 MOVIES AND COUNTING

Thanks to Walter Noble Burns and his seminal book there have been numerous movies on Billy the Kid, one of the most popular of these films is the 1930 movie *Billy the Kid* starring Johnny Mack Brown as the kid, as right, mushed up against the original footage

TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

OVERKILL!

BONNIE & CLYDE VS FRANK HAMER & HIS POSSE

"Well, we got them."

Frank Hamer

The deadly lovers were quite young. Clyde was 25 years old when he was killed, and Bonnie, 23

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Bonnie and Clyde ambushed and shot dead by Frank Hamer and his posse hid in the bushes at right

It is a warm, muggy morning as Clyde Barrow drives his stolen V-8 Ford toward Methvin's place, which is a twenty-minute drive from Gibsland, Louisiana. In the front seat with him is Bonnie Parker, who is eating a takeout sandwich from Ma Caillelli's cafe in Gibsland. She has on a red dress, while her fellow bank robber wears a shirt and blue Western dress shirt and a stylish hat. Bonnie had on a hat, but she has tossed it in the back seat.

Clyde is cruising along at a 60 mph clip because they are running about fifteen minutes late for the rendezvous with gang member Henry Methvin. Up ahead, Clyde recognizes by Methvin's truck which is jacked-up and is blocking the road. Coming from the opposite direction is a logging truck which pulls over to allow Clyde to pass, but he does not take the right-of-way but shoves past the car in first gear and shooting to a stop with the engine still running.

Hidden from view on the hillside next to the Methvin truck is legendary Texas Ranger Frank Hamer and a six-man posse, armed to the teeth. Hamer had planned to roll out for Clyde and Bonnie to surrender, but fifty feet to Hamer's right, a Bienville Parish deputy named Prentiss Oakley who is brandishing a Remington Model 8 with a special five-shot clip just he had borrowed from a local dentist, moves into position and fires a burst. One of the bullets hits Clyde in the temple killing him instantly. Clyde had been driving in his stocking feet and as he slumped forward, the car moved toward a ditch and after several seconds the other posse members, Manny Gault, Benderson Jordan, Ted Hinton, Bob Alcorn and Hamer begin blasting away.

Bonnie screams, a high, shrill wail that haunts the lawmen for the rest of their lives. Hinton later writes that he and his partners fired "about 40 shots."

As the car rolls to a stop, Hamer comes out of hiding and marches down the hill brandishing his Colt Monitor Machine Rifle. Taking no chances he fires a burst into Bonnie through the rear passenger window and then he calmly walks to the front of the car and fires a series of shots down through the window directly into her.

The O.K. Corral fight lasted 30 seconds, but this lethal fusillade elapsed in just sixteen seconds. Both outlaws are dead.

The napkin-wrapped sandwich from Ma Caillelli's is still clutched in Bonnie's lifeless hands.

Frank Hamer takes aim
BEST of the WEST
A TRUE THOUSAND DOLLAR
True West contributing editor, John Boessenecker, writes the first full-length biography of Frank Hamer whose extraordinary career as a Texas Ranger made him one of the West's most legendary lawmen
THE EPIC LIFE OF FRANK HAMER
BONNIE AND CLYDE
TEXAS RANGER

Vicious Killers

Although they are known today for their daring raids, Bonnie and Clyde most often preyed upon small stores and gas stations. They are believed to have killed at least nine police officers and several civilians. Bonnie, then a smoked cannot cigarettes, but she never smoked cigars. Caught in this gag photo, which is a reproduction of a real smoking, machine-gun wielding killer.

When the Barrow gang fled Joplin, Missouri, they left behind most of their belongings, including a roll of undeveloped film. On the roll were many photos of Clyde and Bonnie in gag poses, like this, playfully brandishing guns at each other.

Unlike the wild life in the crime magazines, the Barrows did not spend their time in luxurious hotel suites. They actually jumped out of primitive backwoods camps. Keeping most of the time in their car, battling on streets and pulling out of the ruts, Clyde was constantly afraid. Loaded his guns and here we see him doing just that in some hidden glen.

Lovebirds on the Lam

Clyde was always a snappy dresser and he insisted that in posing for photographs he, too, was going looked sharp, in snazzy suits.

When she rang the bell, Missouri they left behind many of their belongings, including a roll of undeveloped film which the police discovered a they found these photos

Spoils of War

As the wary lawmen approached the bullet-ridden Ford, a fog of gunsmoke still hung in the air. Texas lawmen Henderson Jordan sallied off a blanket in the back seat, examining a range of guns and souvenirs. Meanwhile, Hamer swiftly seized the guns and Clyde's cache box. Hamer had allegedly been promised by Texas prison general manager Lee Simmons that he could have anything Clyde and Bonnie had in their possession at the time if their capture (which finally did) by Bob Alcorn (grabbed Clyde's sawed-off shotgun, he later returned it to the Barrow family). A suitcase full of cash disappeared. The Barrow family always believed it was taken by Henderson Jordan, who later purchased an auction barn and land in Arcadia.

A Rolling Armory

When the death car was examined, the lawmen found three BARs (Browning Automatic Rifles), two sawed-off shotguns, a pistol and guns and over a thousand rounds of ammunition.

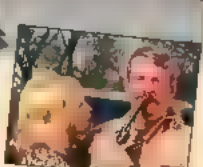
> "The only difference between catching an outlaw and becoming one is a badge."
>
> Will Rogers, actor and humorist

Following the ambush, the bullet-riddled Ford V-8 with Clyde's and Bonnie's bodies still sprawled inside on the front seat was towed to an Ellis roadhouse where thousands of spectators crowded all over the scene. Someone cashed in on Clyde's death as a souvenir. Many were all too happy to pay a dime to say they'd seen Clyde. He was no longer a little bitty fart.

The bullet-riddled car with the outlaws still inside became a macabre carnival

"She was blonde and stacked and ninety pounds straight out of her tommy-gun-toting stogie-sucking Bonnie Parker. Anne Cass dead, just sweet apart."

— Bosley Crowther, May 8, 1967



Bonnie (Faye Dunaway) flirts with Hamer (Denver Pyle in Arthur Penn's 1967 film.

A Clever Title Switch

Faye Dunaway always was the first choice to play Bonnie. Jane Fonda, supposedly, turned it down because she didn't think it was right for her career. Natalie Wood was considered, but Warner Brothers thought she was too old. Dunaway was a relative unknown at the time, but her performance in the film, in spite of the controversy surrounding it, made her a star.

The film, in spite of the news reports that the original working title was "Bonnie and Clyde," was not the Warren Beatty movie. Instead, the two names are reversed to "Bonnie and Clyde." The film is such a cultural touchstone that the more accurate title now seems wrong.

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

Warner Brothers released the film "Bonnie and Clyde" starring Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway in 1967 and it became a runaway hit, earning several Academy Awards. Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway became instant stars. They foolishly used Frank Hamer's real name and made him the villain of the piece, right down to the point where he is captured by the Barrow gang and humiliated. When Hamer kills Bonnie in revenge, Mrs. Hamer was not satisfied with the portrayal of her dear, dead husband.

He died in 1955 and sued Warner Brothers for defamation and the circumstances surrounding Hamer's death. The studio paid $20,000 as a settlement. Because of the film, most people around the world still see Hamer as the bad guy. That would take a long time to correct, but it started with John Neal's book and earlier this year it took the completion and publication of another book and we are about to honor that guy with the True Westerner Award for 2011 for his new book, starring Kevin Costner as Hamer, that attempts to redeem the Ranger's good name.

According to Jeff Guinn, the author of "Go Down Together" Bonnie and Clyde were a pair of the most inept crooks ever, and their two-year crime spree was as much a reign of terror as a reign of terror, lacking the sophistication to pull robberies of big-city banks, the Barrow Gang preyed mostly on small mom-and-pop groceries and service stations. Even at that they often came up empty-handed and were reduced to breaking into gum machines for meager money

BY HENRY C. PARKE

THE MAN WHO REDEEMED THE HAMER NAME

SCREENWRITER JOHN FUSCO MAKES GOOD ON HIS PLEDGE TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON THE TAKEDOWN OF BONNIE & CLYDE.

The story of *The Highwaymen*, the new Depression-era Western from Netflix, has been a fifty-year obsession for author John Fusco. "The real glamour of Warren and Parker leaking an inside tip on Ford's Sedan drew right hammed me. His investigation revealed that the real Bonnie and Clyde were the antitheses of romantic Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty, and the real hero of the story was the Texas Ranger who ran them down. As I researched, I became fascinated by Frank Hamer, one of the greatest lawmen of the 20th century, and I was really disturbed by [the portrayal in the classic movie]."

Hamer is the lawman the outlaw duo ridiculed gleefully and humiliated in the press, eventually luring them into an ambush where he never hesitated. Hamer and the Barrow gang never met, until the brief showmanship when Hamer used it to get them to surrender before opening fire. "He'd been shot — lines over the course of his career had killed over 40 men. He'd patrolled the border on a horse with a Winchester. He was an old-time Ranger in an era that had passed them by. That is until Texas Governor Ma Ferguson enlisted in *Highwaymen* by Texas senator Bailey Hamer, to be county sheriff, gather up some of his old posse and get the Barrows."

The story shimmered on the back burner until fifteen years ago, during the screening of Fusco's *Hoodlum* in the Mojave Desert. "Producer Scott Silver asked me what my passion projects were and I told him about Frank Hamer. Coincidentally, we were staying at Whitney Peters' iconic motel where the actual Bonnie and Clyde death car was on display. Silver was quickly enthused."

Fusco wanted the cooperation of the family for the Hamers, who'd won a settlement from Warner Brothers for defamation in Bonnie calling. "Frank Jr. like his father had been a Texas Ranger one of the last of the flying gang-watchers, treating them to drinks from a cocktail plane. I happened to have a few

John Fusco, on right, shakes hands with Frank Hamer Jr. outside the Bonnie Parker and Clyde Steak House. In front of them, with a plaque of his right leg, is Manuel "

Scenes from the feature film "The Hateful Eight" starring Kurt Russell as Chris Mannix and Samuel L. Jackson as Marquis Warren

game warden mysteries and ride-alongs in three states. They interviewed for hours, and a meeting was set. At a lunch of mostly seafood, Fraser complained that cop and Fraser Jr. in the eighth-grade literature. We walked over to the stuff he said. "I took one look at him and right by my daddy. He had his friend call a fake court so we almost hands, and he said, 'There's no contract right here.'

Fraser's initial dream cast to play James and partner Manny Gault were Robert Redford and Paul Newman. Redford got the script first — he said, 'Don't send the script to Paul. I'm going to bring it to him and I'm going to make sure that we're in this. After *Butch and Sundance* and *The Sting* [which will be a perfect cast one for movie the together]." Newman agreed, and the two partners was the title of Hollywood. Sadly Newman was notes too ill to work, and the deal fell apart.

Fast forward a dozen years to Netflix, where Fraser is writing and producing the *Three Pines* series, and Casey Silver is making movies — he and producer John Lee Hancock had long been a supporter. We knew there had been several films [with Redford], and Woody Harrelson had been circling it for quite a while — Casey called me and said, 'You've got a relationship with Netflix. Do you — What about making *Highwaymen* in them?' And bingo: they were on board and we were off to the races.

Fraser grew up on his father's farm in rural Connecticut, dropped out of high school to ride the rails, then got a GED and went to NYU Film School. Screenwriting teacher and short-subject Waldo Salt took Fraser under his wing. "He told Edward and Woody and me, 'We were kind of like three spirits — he got behind my work and I just idolized him." His Bachelor's thesis script became the 1996 movie *Sunchasers*. That fusion of left-of-his agenda entertainers to do something commercial, and we do a Western although, "A Western had not made money since *Butch Cassidy*. Young actors were a bit scared of the genre," beginning the genre revival that led to movies like *Western Productions* and *Hateful Eight*.

"Working with the Young Guns was great. Patsy recalls. "And working with the Old Guns — but I got the short end of the stick. I was the guy who got beaten up. I'm always getting beaten up. I'm always getting killed. I'm always getting shot. I'm always getting hurt. I'm always getting killed. I'm always getting shot. I'm always getting hurt. I'm always getting killed. I'm always getting shot. I'm always getting hurt

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Our 17th Annual Celebration of the Absolute Best of the West!

Congratulations on your 25th issue of the West Magazine! In honor of the past year's issue, Dear West, we've chosen its 25th year. The editorial team has created this special issue to honor readers' favorite topics—the Texas Rangers, law & order, the outlaw Al Jennings, cowboy poetry, travel and more—which is why we've named it "25 Issues of the West." In February '96 we'll be looking for these special features and "Best of the West" issues to be sent to West and Wheelbase, books, firearms, horses, travel and West in Film.

Dear West editorial staff looks to the future and an exciting year of Dear West. Readers will see a new section, Dear West Historians. Our award-winning columnists will continue to provide expert Dear West historical preservation, collectibles, movies, television and books, providing you the reader with the most insightful views of the past, present and future of the West. *Dear West*'s writers will continue to discover unique Western history stories that will appear in each issue and in the right-wing state where history happened. As Mark Twain wrote, "Truth is stranger than fiction." *Dear West* will continue to produce vigorous and narrow-minded, uncompromising, one-person-at-a-time, non-politically correct, wholesome, truthful views on the Old West and to respond to regional issues in the Dear West section of the magazine.

We agree and hope you enjoy the journey to "Dear West." We promise to be the best of the West in every issue. Happy trails to you! We look forward to performing the West in every way possible. This coming year by calling those we honor in this, our annual Best of the West issue!

End of an Era

The Robert G. McCubbin Collection goes to auction

Fort Worth Five: Andy Scherr print by Neal Boyd of Fort Worth, Texas. Sold after a decisive robbery in Nevada, these colorful outlaws met a fate worthy of enjoying the fruits of their success—from left to right, nicknames not withstanding, have been popularized by Harvey Logan and Butch Cassidy.

Est. $300,000-$150,000

Not because of Bob McCubbin's personal connection to *True West* magazine. Lifelong collector of Western Americana for 60 and plus decades, Mr. McCubbin has been a charter subscriber since Joe Small started *True West* in Austin, Texas in 1954. McCubbin was a consistent if unsolicited critic of *True West* when Bob Hayne Bell bought the magazine in 1980 as a contributor of historical photographs from his private collection for two decades. *True West*'s publisher emeritus and the recipient in January 2018 of the magazine's highest honor, The True Westerner Award.

In honor of Mr. McCubbin's 60 year affiliation with *True West* and his long-time dedication to the preservation and promotion of the West, Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell interviewed Mr. McCubbin, asked some basic questions from the world's greatest collection of outlaw and American photographs, and reserved the right of first refusal for the upcoming auction in Mesa. Following the auction, *True West*'s editors will report on the actual winning bids on these and other items from the Robert G. McCubbin Old West collectibles event.

On January 25-26, 2019 in Mesa, Arizona, Heritage Auctions Old West Auctions will oversee the auction of the Robert G. McCubbin collection of Historic Photographs & Artifacts of the Old West. According to the auction house: "The Robert G. McCubbin collection consists of over 400 pieces of original photographs, artifacts and ephemera from the American West, circa 1850-1930. It is among the most extensive and important collections of early Western Americana photographs and documents in private hands, and is the first to come available in its entirety at public auction."

The auction of the McCubbin collection is not only significant in its heritage of its value and the items to be sold

John Wesley Hardin: Tintype, taken in Abilene, Kansas, 1871. This photo came from Hardin's personal photograph album and was made at the end of a cattle drive during which he killed four men.

Est. $50,000-$75,000

Doc Holliday: Young, soon-to-be Western gambler-gunfighter. CDV by G.B. Ahl of Philadelphia, 1872. This photo was passed down through the family from Doc's favorite lover, Mattie Hollida, and is actually the only known image that shows us what Doc looked like during periods coinciding with the Old Dodge days.

Est. $70,000-$90,000

Joe Kilpatrick Ice Mallet: Southern Pacific Express train messenger David Trousdale killed Bert "The Talk Texan" Kilpatrick with this ice mallet during the Farmers Willing Hand's unsuccessful attempt to rob the train near Sanderson, Texas, in March, 1912.

Est. $50,000-$2,000

Charlie Bowdre & Wilie Oil by Furlong of Las Vegas. Bowdre in 1878. Charlie Bowdre rode with Billy the Kid longer than anyone else. Bowdre was shot and killed by Pat Garrett on the night of December 1880 at Stinking Springs where the Kid was captured

Est. $50,000-$75,000

BEST WESTERN MUSEUM
Western Spirit Scottsdale's Museum of the West, Scottsdale, AZ

The beautiful design of this building the tile-like structure evokes the spines of the saguaro cactus, and the cutaway collection in the garden where the walls "weep" with condensation, mimics the natural variable on canyon walls at Canyon de Chelly. It is just a taste of what you will experience inside this museum filled with art, cowboy gear and ranch paraphernalia, including the Abo days Spirit of the West collection. Major exhibits in 2018 were Joe Beeler: A Western Original," "New Acquisitions from the Hertzogen Collection, and A Spotlight on Contemporary Hopi Kachinas and Katsina Dolls" series. Three exhibits thus are designed to will open in early 2019 are "Charles M. Russell: The Western in Life and Art, "New Beginnings: An American Story of Reinventors and Modernists in the West" and Photographs by Barry M. Goldwater: The Arizona Highways Collection. Scottsdalemuseumwest.org

READERS CHOICE
Buffalo Bill Center of the West Cody, WY

BEST WESTERN ART COLLECTION
Stark Museum of Western Art, Orange, TX

A leader in curating, collecting and exhibiting Western art in the state of Texas, the Stark Museum of Western Art offered outstanding exhibitions in 2018 including "Paul Kane: Intrepid Artist and Adventurer," "Portraits from Cowboys of the Photographs by Joel Russell," "Cabins, Legends and Life" and "Lasting Impressions: The Work of Edward S. Curtis. Starkmuseumofwestern.org

READERS CHOICE
Canyon, TX

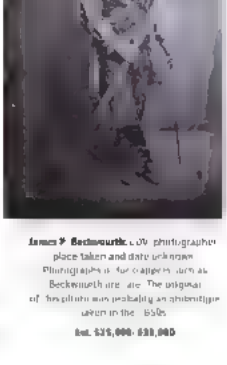
BEST AMERICAN INDIAN COLLECTION
Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ

Founded in 1929, the Heard Museum is dedicated to the advancement of American Indian art and is recognized internationally for the quality of its collections, exhibitions, educational programming and festivals. The Heard has set the standard for collaborating with American Indian artists and cultural communities to provide visitors with a distinctive perspective about the art of native people, especially those from the Southwest. Exhibitions in 2018-2019 include "Remembering the Indian School Days: The Boarding School Experience," Awa Tsireh: Pueblo Painter and Modernist," "Tina Enos Mathew and the Inner Arctic Spirit," A Land North Works from the Heard Museum Collection and "Sentient: The Jewelry of Verena Yazzie-Hasa. Heard.org

READERS CHOICE
Buffalo Bill Center of the West's Plains Indian Museum, Cody, WY

BEST WESTERN ART GALLERY
C.M. Russell Museum, Great Falls, MT

The C.M. Russell Museum is the centerpiece of historic in Great Falls, Montana. Visitors will enjoy touring Charles M. Russell's home and studio and outstanding permanent exhibitions including "Indian Country: The Art of David Bradley," "The Black, American Icon," "C.M. Russell Legacy Galleries" and



James P. Beckwourth c. 1856 photographer place taken and date unknown Photograph is the property of Beckwourth art. The original of this photo was probably an ambrotype taken in the 1850s

Est. $25,000-$30,000

Ben Thompson: English-born Ben Thompson had a long and eventful career on both sides of the law, including serving as marshal of Austin, Texas, in 1878. According to the writing on the cabinet card, the portrait of Thompson was taken in Austin in Texas, in 1879.

Est. $25,000-$35,000

"Charles M. Russell — Auction." The "Charles M. Russell: The Women in His Life and Art" was launched at the C. M. Russell Museum in 2018 before traveling to Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West. The Russell Exhibition and Sale March 23-25, 2018, is one of the West's most important art events of the year. *CMRussell.org*

READERS' CHOICE
Buffalo Bill Center of the West's Whitney Western Art Museum, Cody, WY

BEST PIONEER HISTORY COLLECTION
Old Sacramento, Sacramento, CA

Western history buffs should put Sacramento on their bucket list as California's capital city will simultaneously celebrate the 170th anniversary of the Gold Rush and the 150th anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 2019. Visitors to the historic old town will discover the Old West at the Sacramento History Museum, California State Railroad Museum, the Delta King Riverboat and Wells Fargo History Museum. Historic rides and tours include the "Gold Rivers" Tours, Old Sacramento Underground Tours, the Sacramento River Train, Sacramento Southern Excursion Trail and many venues in the capital. *Sacramento.com*

READERS' CHOICE
Harold Warp Pioneer Village City, NE

BEST OLD WEST COLLECTIBLES AUCTION
Heritage Auctions, Dallas, TX

Heritage Auctions in Dallas is an internationally recognized leader in selling Western Americana, Texana, art movie posters and collectibles. Major Western artists' originals auctioned in 2018 included pieces by Frank Tenney Johnson, Olaf Wieghorst, Arnold Harvey Jones, O.E. Berninghaus, Edward Borein, Walter Ufer and Joseph Henry Sharp. *HA.com*

READERS' CHOICE
Brian Lebel's Old West Auction Santa Fe, NM, and Mesa, AZ

BEST OLD WEST ART AUCTION
Scottsdale Art Auction Scottsdale, AZ

Since April 2006, a consortium of leading American art dealers — Mike Frost Fairfield Galleries of New York City; Jack A. Morris, Jr., Morris & Whiteside Galleries of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina; and Brad Richardson Legacy Galleries of Scottsdale, Arizona, Bozeman, Montana, and Jackson Hole, Wyoming — have held a Western art auction in Scottsdale. The world renowned Scottsdale Art Auction is currently accepting consignments and will hold its next auction on April 6, 2019. *ScottsdaleArtAuction.com*

READERS' CHOICE
Heritage Auctions, Dallas, TX

BEST OLD WEST FIREARMS AUCTION
James D. Julia, Inc., a division of Morphy Auctions, Denver, PA, and Las Vegas, NV

In 2011, Jim Julia merged his highly regarded 45-year-old company, James D. Julia, Inc., with Dan Morphy's Morphy Auctions, which was founded in 1997. Both companies are well known and highly respected by collectors worldwide for their rare firearms exhibits and unusual auctions of guns, edged weapons, armor and militaria. Morphy will hold a Gold Rush, Western and Native American collectible auctions in Las Vegas, Nevada, in March of 2019. *MorphyAuctions.com*

READERS' CHOICE
Rock Island Auction, Rock Island, IL

Bat Masterson: Cabinet card by Vancil & McDonald, of Dodge City, Kansas, 1885. Bat Masterson was Ford County sheriff in Dodge City, the most famous cow-town of trail days.

Est. $15,000-$25,000

Nesh Thomas, Deputy U.S. Marshal. Cabinet card by Pawnee Gallery of Natural History, Pawnee, Okla. Identified, dated and from Thomas' personal home files.

Est. $15,000-$20,000

BEST TREASURE HUNTING DEVICE

Garrett Metal Detectors, Garland, TX

Charles and Eleanor Garrett founded Garrett Metal Detectors in 1964. Fifty-five years later, Eleanor still leads the family-owned company with the same philosophies that have made them one of the leaders in the metal detector marketplace: make the best metal detectors, sell them at a fair and reasonable cost, and place customer service and satisfaction as the top priorities of the company. Today, Garrett has three major divisions: Sport, Security and Countermine/EOD. The Sport division offers professional and amateur detectorists state-of-the-art, high-quality product lines in the world

Garrett, too

READERS' CHOICE

Garrett Metal Detectors, Garland, TX

BEST WESTERN COLLECTIBLES GALLERY

Cowboy Legacy Gallery
Scottsdale, AZ

Since 1966, Cowboy Legacy Gallery owner Bill Welch has welcomed customers to his specialty store with Western collectibles and art dating back to at least the 1920s. Welch's extensive and reputation for offering the finest Western American and antique artifacts, old and artisan collectibles, including saddles, hats, spurs and chaps, makes Cowboy Legacy Gallery a destination for anyone visiting Scottsdale.

[illegible] Main St. Ste. H
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
480-[illegible]

READERS' CHOICE

Buffalo Bill Center of the West
Cody, WY

Hidden Treasures of the Black Range and ***Wyatt Earp- The Lost Story,*** according to many of our readers, contain stories that are the most fascinating ones they have ever read. *Hidden Treasures of the Black Range* is about Larry Ditzer and Marshal Bulle spending decades looking for an old cannon seen by cowboy Walt Nichols high in New Mexico's Black Range in the 1950s, which they found. That discovery led to the location of one of the most sought after lost gold mines in the entire southwest.

Wyatt Earp- The Lost Story makes a compelling case that the photo seen on its cover is Wyatt Earp, and that it was taken in Quincy, IL in 1870. This 96 page book contains explosive evidence indicating that misidentified photos of Wyatt Earp have been unwittingly published in some western history books. Evidence in this book has changed more than a few opinions. To see more or to order either book visit ***www.frontiershadows.com***

ART COLLECTIBLES

BEST WESTERN PAINTER
Frederic S. Remington (1861–1909)

Most art historians would say Frederic S. Remington and Charles M. Russell are the modern personalities of Western American art. While Remington and Russell were friends, each had very different styles. Remington was a realist who depicted the Old West as he saw it. Russell was an impressionist who painted scenes of the West as he remembered it. Both artists are considered the finest Western illustrators of the 19th century. Remington had learned a great deal of success when he began his final phase of major works. Russell's influence on the French impressionists like Monet, America's greatest Western artist.

Bettie Sutter Fabricated by Rawlee brothers of Corinth, Arkansas. Bill Sutter, above left, lived in a remote area of the Indian Territory and was attacked by outlaws. Surrounding with some, including Tyler Thompson and Hanging Jason, such as Jim Reed and Sam Starr.

Est. $14,000–$18,000

READERS' CHOICE
C.M. Russell (1864–1926)

Masterpiece Portrait

AMERICANA & POLITICAL AUCTION

March 30, 2019 | Dallas | Live & Online

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CONSIGN TO OUR SPRING 2019 AMERICANA & WESTERN AUCTION!

Pictured here are just two of the many fine items we will feature in this important auction. Heritage Auctions has been voted the "Best Old West Collectibles" auctions for seven consecutive years (so far) by the readers of *True West*. If you have quality Western or other Historical Americana items, you might consider for auction, there is no better place to sell. Please contact us ASAP to discuss consignment options. Consignments to the Spring auction must arrive by February 6, 2019. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Major important Wild Bill Hickok letter that set a world's record when it appeared at auction in 2005.
Starting bid $25,000, no reserve

Superb 1853 presentation sword to John Sutter from the Sutter Rifles, in consideration of their early services in the state of California.
Starting bid $25,000, no reserve

Tom Slater
TomS@HA.com, 214-409-1441

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HERITAGE AUCTIONS
THE WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTIBLES AUCTIONEER

Wild Bill Hickok
Oil by artist of Springfield Museum 1865 Bill Hickok is arguably the first and greatest gunfighter of the Old West. In this photo, he is wearing his own custom

Est. $14,000-$18,000

BEST WESTERN ART COLLECTOR

Philip F. Anschutz, Denver, CO

Billionaire Western art collector Philip Anschutz's passion for Western art has led him to oversee one of the most influential collections and dollars of the genre in the country. The Anschutz collection of the Buffalo Bill Museum of Western Art has over 1,000 paintings, drawings and sculptures representing more than 50 artists. The collection describes one of the nation's finest surveys of American Western history, from the early 19th century to the present.

READERS CHOICE

Philip F. Anschutz, Denver, CO

BEST WESTERN PAINTER (LIVING)

Sherry Blanchard Stuart, Scottsdale, AZ

Award-Winning Western artist Sherry Blanchard Stuart was born in Arkansas, raised in Kansas and currently resides in Scottsdale. For nearly five decades she has successfully pursued her career as a Western artist and has become highly collectible nationally and internationally. She is a signature member of the American Plains Artists, Pastelists of America, a juried member of Western Artists of America, a founding member of Creative Women of Pinnacle Peak. Stuart's artwork has been exhibited in juried and solo exhibitions across the country and is in permanent collections of Western art museums in Arizona and Nebraska, Midwest Sports Announcing

READERS CHOICE

Andy Thomas, Carthage, MO

Jesse James Original tintype of the outlaw in paint by was sold roughly a century and was outstanding, as he in Platte City, Missouri, in 1864

Est. $10,000-$15,000

Jack R. Jones and Jack Stilwell: Cabinet and by W.F. Bliss of Red Bluff, California, c. 1874. Jack Stilwell (right) adopted through Indian lore at the Beaver Island Lighthouse for early and later settlers as a mail for Dexter Miles and Mai Kenzie

Est. $30,000-$45,000

BEST WESTERN HISTORY COLLECTIONS

Johnny Morris, Ridgedale, MO

Founder of Bass Pro Shops, Big Cedar Lodge, Top Gun Golf Course, Sasquatch Park, Tracker Boats, Tripod Bar Ranch and more, Johnny Morris was born and raised in the Ozarks of Missouri. The culmination of his Bass Pro Shops retail business career takes him far from his beloved Ozarks. Where he has built the ultimate destination resort, Top of the Rock. One of the centerpieces of Top of the Rock is the Ancient Ozarks Natural History Museum, which houses Morris's Western art collection, artifacts and artifacts. Morris also has opened a showcase of his love for the outdoors, the Bass Pro Shops-Tom Johnny Morris's Wonders of Wildlife Museum & Aquarium in Springfield, Missouri.

READERS CHOICE

Johnny Morris, Ridgedale, MO

WESTERN BOOKS

The Western Book: A Reflection

In 2018 Old West fiction adapts to the marketplace while Old West history is slipping into a sub-genre nearly forgotten by most publishers

Artifacts of America's 19th century—of the mines, the West and its conservation-President Theodore Roosevelt served speaking at Yellowstone National Park in 1903. Interest in the subject of historian T. Harry Williams' *Pulitzer Prize*-winning biography, *Theodore Roosevelt: The American as Boy and Man*, has declined in recent years, and publishers are not alone in their lack of interest in the subject.

As I write this column from my desk in my office in Texas, it's been a decade since I began reflecting on the past, present and future state of Western literary and fiction publishing. I wrote a piece 15 years ago. I was recently engaged to be married, a third-year graduate student in history at Arkansas State University and was working for editor Bob Bailey in my first year as the newly-retired Jon Small had died at 76 years old earlier that year and current Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell had just published the first edition of *The Illustrated Life & Times of the Hollister Two*. Bell was still published by Bob Evans Publications, offices in Stillwater, Oklahoma, where *Wild West* had a subscription base of 100,000 or 12 percent of its current subscribers, and my professors in the history department were simultaneously touting the Internet as the future of history research while encouraging all of us to abandon traditional 19th-century research styles such as frontier social capital studies—in ways quite similar to today's digital humanities movement, especially Julius Turner's 19th-century and ethno-cultural studies. Scholastic subjects who attended local and

the hobbity of orange-tailed morning, law and order and locomotives, more popular topics for Western historians, and in Shotguns and Sagebrushes: The Sheep Men and the Cattle Kings and Wells Fargo and the Wild West Thomas Jennie Brandon Boessenecker writes about these all-encompassing Wells. Hig- key-like in the growth of Virginia city, Nevada's eight-

national history association convention discussed ways they were part of a larger academic institutional that exemplified the abandonment of traditional Western American history research and publishing. Historians and editors William Cronon, George Miles and Jay Gitlin edited in their opening essay, "Becoming the West: Toward a New Meaning for Western History," in *Under an Open Sky: Rethinking America's Western Past* (1992), "Does the western past have a future

Twenty-five years later and almost six years after journal *True West*'s editorial staff at Western Book Journal, must reinterpret the question: "Does the Western past have a future in book and magazine publishing?" Has the academic been successful in snuffing out an all the tradition-related writing. Al Western history in a single generation in some quantities, interpretation and publication? From where I sat in Texas, by I would have to answer yes, at least in mainstream publishing. While the University of Oklahoma Press, the University of Nevada Press, the University of Nebraska Press, Texas, university of North Texas Press and the Texas A&M University-sometimes continue to take the lead in publishing new volumes in the traditional 19th-century Western history genre most of the university publishers who were leaders in 20th-century American Western history book publishing have either abandoned the genre entirely or have minimized it to a level that to the long run cannot be sustained profitably or academically.

So when can *True West* readers count on the traditional Western history and biography in 2015? New York publishers still dominate almost a dozen annually as does Western historians as storytellers. Independent publishers including Arcadia and The History Press, McFarland, Rowman Littlefield, Two Dot, Lone Star 61 and *True West*'s Two Roads West imprint fill numerous gaps in traditional fields and self-published by our readers as leaders in the field. Self-publishers and publishing entrepreneurs should reconsider the opportunities to fill the void in Western history publishing—but beware the other pitfalls of publishing. After 25 years in

business—has the internet would change the future of writing research and the history academy. Where in the pr ds in history publishing when much of the information is available online or at least at an affordable e-book? Just look—here at your—there are only two Western history magazines still publishing, *True West* and *Wild West*. What will show the future pertains of our history is no longer valued appreciated, published interpreted or promoted?"

Speaking of the e-book, Western fiction authors and publishers have also entered a new galaxy of publishing. Similar to their colleagues in mainstream history, a lot of publishing Western fiction authors have discovered fewer and fewer publishing houses—traditional thirteen- marketing traditional 19th-century Westerns. In essence, marketers and publishers,

In 1869, John Wesley Powell led the first of two major river expeditions (left), his second, pictured in the book about the Green River in 18). His explorations of the Green and Colorado rivers, carried out over two years in 70's, *The Promise of the Grand Canyon: John Wesley Powell's Report to Congress* (Northern Illinois University) and his vision for the American West by John F Rose (Viking) and *Painting the John Wesley Powell Route: Exploring the Green and Colorado Rivers* by Mike Reinbeck (Falcon)

Both Bancroft's original Mining District and the photo's photographer Carleton Watkins are subjects of books such as *The Bonanza King: John Mackay and the Battle over the Greatest Mines on Earth* and *Carleton Watkins: Making the West American* by Peter Green (University of California Press)

that contemporary Western tapestry rules. But there is hope for Old West novel fans as delivered by these publishers Kensington, Five Star and Wolfpack. These three are following the entertainment in storytelling that they grew up reading, and as True West's Western Books editor applaud their efforts to keep the genre alive and thriving.

So what does the future portend in Western history and fiction publishing? would challenge anyone with a vested interest in Old West history to directly communicate with the publishers about topics you want to see investigated, interpreted and published. Subscribe to history magazines, including *Wild West* John and participate in local, state and national historical preservation societies and organizations. I'm a member of the Western Writers of America, Western History Association, National Council of Public History, The Westerners' corral, Wild West History Association and the Arizona Historical Society; what about you? Follow up on Old West research topics and publish them. The e-book world is not limited to just fiction. Investigate period and write your families stories for the next generation. And, most importantly, give the gift of history by sending a subscription to a friend or loved one, or sending a book as gift and sharing your passion for the American West with the next generation. It's not just the right thing to do, it's the only way we can ensure the history is preserved not just a century from now but in the next few years.

WESTERN BOOKS

BEST AUTHOR AND NONFICTION BOOK OF THE YEAR

Shotguns and Stagecoaches: The Brave Men Who Rode for Wells Fargo in the [illegible] Days (Thomas Dunne Books)

Award-winning author *of Texas Rangers: The Epic Life of Frank Hamer* the Man Who Killed Bonnie and Clyde John Boessenecker is back with his latest big Western history book, this time linked to the legendary story of Wells Fargo and its iconic stage lines—and the men who drove and protected them.

BEST OF THE REST

Cattle Industry: *The Oklahoma Trail: Joseph McCoy's Great Gamble* by James E. Sherow (University of Oklahoma Press)

Western Trails: *West Like Lightning: The Brief, Legendary Ride of the Pony Express* by Jim DeFelice (William Morrow)

Exploration: *The Promise of the Great Oregon: John Wesley Powell's Perilous Journey and His Vision for the American West* by John F. Ross (Viking)

Biography: *They Called Him Doubtful Frank: The Life and Adventures of Nineteenth-Century Leader* by Jack DeGaetano and Chuck Parsons (University of North Texas Press)

Mining: *The Bonanza Kings: John Mackay and the Battle Over the Greatest Riches in the American West* by Gregory Crouch (Scribner)

BEST BIOGRAPHY

Ben Thompson: Portrait of a Gunfighter by Thomas E. Bicknell and Chuck Parsons (University of North Texas Press)

Thomas Bicknell and Chuck Parsons final research and writing effort has created one of the finest biographies of a Western gunfighter published in recent years. The writing team included in *Ben Thompson* fully annotated endnotes, an unabridged bibliography and detailed appendixes that historians, students and researchers will be using as a valuable resource for decades

BEST OF THE REST

Law and Order: *Captain Jack Hays: A Texan of Texas Revolutionary Violence* by Chuck Parsons (University of North Texas Press)

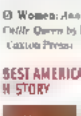
Pebbles: *The Courtney Pennsylvania: The American West and the Making of Theodore Roosevelt* by Michael F. Blake (Taschen)

Western Culture: *Cattleman William Mellon: The West American* by Tyler Green (University of California Press)

Literature: *The Life of Mark Twain: The Early Years, 1835-1871* by Gary Scharnhorst (University of Missouri Press)

Women: *Ann Bennett, Colorado's Petite Queen* by Linda Wommack (Caxton Press)

BEST AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY



***The Black Legend: George Bascom, Cochise, and the Start of the Apache Wars* by Doug Hocking (TwoDot)**

Doug Hocking, who made his name well-known in Western history circles two years ago with the first-ever biography of Tom Jeffords, has returned to familiar ground to provide a thoroughly researching and interpretation of the Bascom Affair of 1861 and the beginning of the 25 year Apache Wars.

BEST OF THE REST

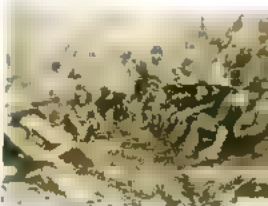
War and Peace: *Uninterrupted Odyssey: Ulysses S. Grant and the American Indians* by Mary Stockwell Southern Illinois University Press)

Religion: *A Whirlwind Passes Through Our Country: Catholic visions of the Great Prairie* by Shari Huhndorf Anderson (University of Oklahoma Press)

Culture *Apacheria: True Stories of Apache Culture 1865-1930* by W. Michael Farmer (Twodot)

Warrior *I Will Not Surrender the Honor of a Heroic Past: The Nez Perce Campaign 1877* by Robert N. Watt (Helion and Company)

20th-Century: *A Journey Fearless: Richard Oakes, Alcatraz, and the Red Power Movement* by Kent Blansett (Yale University Press)



C.S. Fly's famous photo of Geronimo (with Lozen and Naiche, to his left) negotiating in 1886 at Skeleton Canyon after the beginning of the Apache-Army conflict which is chronicled in the Black Legend: George Bascom, Cochise, and the Start of the Apache Wars (TwoDot) by Doug Hocking

MAGGIE RAWLINS left all her family in Nashville to escape living the mainstream life that encompassed the last years of the American West. Along the way, she meets the temperamentally beautiful Sarah Mendelsohn and learns that the highs and lows of this life cannot be defined simply as blue and gray.

Heading westward into the raging Indian War of 1864, he earns a reputation as a well-respected fighter and must finally decide what kind of man he will be—outlaw, lawman or gunfighter.

RickDeStefanis.com
Amazon.com

WESTERN BOOKS

BEST LAW AND ORDER HISTORY

Arizona's Deadliest Gunfight: Graft, Resistance and Tragedy at the Power Cabin, 1918 **by Heidi L. Osselaer (University of Oklahoma Press)**

Arizona State University history professor Heidi L. Osselaer's investigative look into the controversial Power cabin shoot-out delves deeply into the issues and personalities who made the rural, politically corrupt areas of the West are never too far from the larger national and even international conflict forces and policies that affect the rural West.

BEST OF THE BEST

1 Prostitution *Deadwood's Al Swearengen: Manifest Evil in the Gem Theatre* by Jerry L. Bryant and Barbara Allen (Two Dollar Press)

2 Texas Rangers *The Ranger Book: Texas Rangers in the Hall of Fame* by [illegible] (University of South Texas Press)

3 Criminal *Outlaws of the Pecos: Outlaw and Lawmen in America's Last Stand* by Bob Alexander (Lyons Press)

4 Lawmen *Calling the Dramas: Short Detectives on the Wild West* by Stanley Mack and Tim Hall

5 Outlaws *Sod Chronicles: The Cherokee Strip Outlaw Book* by Dennis Abbott Mitchenall (University of Oklahoma Press)

BEST FICTION

The Removes, A Novel **by Tatjana Soli's (Forge)**

Award-winning California author Tatjana Soli's *The Removes* is a bold, adventurous novel of the post-civil war Western Indian Wars told through the eyes of two female photographers. Caroline Armstrong Custer's wife, Libbie Custer and Vietnamese refugee photographer Linh Dinh, a 20-year old Kansas pioneer girl, Anne Cummins, the dynamic and original turn-of-the-century female characters will enthrall readers.

BEST OF THE REST:

1 Old West *The Kid and Me: A Novel* by Frederick Turner (University of Nebraska Press)

2 Mystery *A Dying Note: A Silken Thread Mystery* by Ann Parker (Poisoned Pen Press)

3 Literary *Three Sisters, Three Queens* by Williams Luke Forge

4 Frontier Fiction *Riots in the Badger, Wyatt Sharp, An American Odyssey, Book Three* by Mark Warren (Five Star)

5 Mass Market *Where the Bullets Fly* by Terrance Mitchell Audrey (Pinnacle)

BEST CULTURAL WEST

Elevations, A Personal Exploration of the Arkansas River **by Mac McCoy (University Press of Kansas)**

Author, journalist, adventurer, historian and adventurer Mac McCoy has brought all of his talents, passions and skills to research, painstakingly and writing together one of the most original books of the year. If you like natural Edward Abbey, Jim Fletcher, William Least Heat Moon and John McPhee, you will enjoy McCoy's *Elevations* ride by ride with their boat in your library and save it space for McCoy's next volume.

BEST OF THE REST

1 Cowboys *The Last Cowboys: A Family's Fatality on the West Texas* by John Graves (UW Stories)

2 Regional *1866: The Human Movement, the Land Wars and Early Montana* by Michael J. Hightower (University of Oklahoma Press)

ROUGH DRAFTS

JUST RELEASED!

Some of the best books in Western history and fiction are published in the last quarter of the year. They are just in time for the holidays but not early enough to be reviewed. Here is a selection recommend:

The Ranger Book Volume 2: Texas Rangers in the Hall of Fame, 1874-1930 by Darren L. Ivey (University of North Texas Press

Wild Justice by Glen D. Eickman (Forge)

Seven Fingers 'n Bones: A Western Novel by Eric M. Heisner (Lean Dog Productions

Puget's Sound: A Narrative of Early [redacted] by Murray Morgan (University of Washington Press).

The Making of Yosemite: Behind the Scenes of the Classic Modern Western by John Fabbis (McFarland).

Paddling the John Wesley Powell Route: Exploring the Green and Colorado Rivers by Mike Bezemek (Falcon).

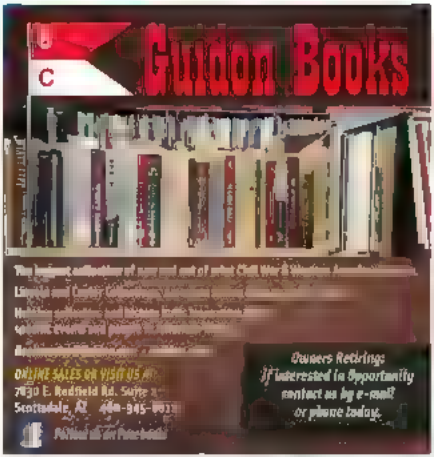
Arizona Oddities: Land of Anomalies & Tomales by Marshall Trimble (The History Press

Grit and Gold: The Death Valley Forty-niners of 1849 by Jean Johnson (University of Nevada Press

[redacted]: Wrangle Over the Truth About the Mythic Old West by Bill Markley and Kelsey Wakefield (Taylor)

Estevan: The African Slave who Explored America by Dennis Herrick (University of New Mexico Press)

'Horses Worn to Mere Skeletons': The Victoria Campaign 1838 by Robert N. Watt (Helion and Company).



PPHM
PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM
2503 Fourth Avenue • Canyon, Texas 79015

WESTERN BOOKS

BEST NONFICTION AUTHOR

EDITORS' CHOICE
JOHN BOESSENECKER

READERS' CHOICE
PAUL ANDREW HUTTON

BEST HISTORICAL WESTERN NOVELIST

EDITORS' CHOICE
TATIANA SOLI

READERS' CHOICE
LOUIS L'AMOUR

BEST WESTERN HISTORY BOOK PUBLISHER

EDITORS' CHOICE
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS, NORMAN, OK

READERS' CHOICE
TWODOT, NEW YORK, NY

BEST WESTERN HISTORY [illegible]

EDITORS' CHOICE
GUIDON BOOKS, SCOTTSDALE, AZ

READERS' CHOICE
SHER DAN STATIONARY, SHERIDAN, WY

BEST WESTERN HISTORY UNIVERSITY PRESS

EDITORS' CHOICE
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS, NORMAN, OK

READERS' CHOICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS, LINCOLN, NE AND TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY PRESS, LUBBOCK, TX

BEST WESTERN FICTION PRESS

EDITORS' CHOICE
FIVE STAR PUBLISHING, WATERVILLE, ME

READERS' CHOICE
PINNACLE BOOKS, NEW YORK, NY

Tourism. *Trailblazing, Deadwood and Badge City: Reaching the Frontier* West by Kevin Britz and Roger L. Nichols (University of Oklahoma Press

Frontier Fare *The Golden Dozen of the West: Wyoming and the Shaping of America* by Shirley Mitchell with June Perkins Tveit

Western Film *Junior Bonner: The Making of a Classic with Steve McQueen and Sam Peckinpah on the Summer of 1971* by Bob Yerkovich with Shari Boyd (Rowman & Littlefield Lanham, MD)

BEST ART ILLUSTRATED BOOK

***Joe De Yong: A Life in the West* by William Reynolds (Atamar Media, Inc)**

Historians, students and collectors now have a fine set of Western American art with the release of William Reynolds' five-year, decades after his publication of *Joe De Yong: A Life in the West*. Sharply written, exquisitely designed and beautifully illustrated, *Joe De Yong* reflects the perfect authors and style that Reynolds has brought to all his media work for four decades.

BEST OF THE REST

Cowboy Artists: *Charles M. Russell: The Women in His Life* and art by Joan Carpenter Troccoli (C.M. Russell Museum)

Cultural: *Transnational Westerns: The American West on Screen* by Emily C. Burns (University of Oklahoma Press)

Film *Cowboys, Cowpokes and Classics* by Chris Enss and Howard Kazanjian (Globe Pequot)

Western Art. *Absent Discourse: Women in a Changing West* by Peter H. Hassrick (University of Oklahoma Press)

Photography: *Edge of the West: Photography and the Contemporary West* by George Miles (The Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Yale University)

BEST NEW WESTERN AUTHOR

Tonya Parvital Vicky Rose has established her first novels with turn Western publishing in 2016 for Wordpack Publishing, she writes under the pen name of V.J. Rose and has two novels published, a classic frontier Western Treasure Hunt in The Snow and a modern Western mystery Footsteps. For Pinnacle Westerns, she debuted under the pseudonym Lady Jackson with the first volume of the Tennessee Smith Western series. A Final Place to Die. Fans of Western fiction will have to keep their eye on Rose in 2019 as she continues to thrill her readers with new Western fiction.

BEST WESTERN HISTORY PUBLISHER

The University of Oklahoma Press

With so many of the presses collecting or dropping 19th-century Western history from their catalogues, The University of Oklahoma Press has picked up the slack and is the standard bearer for publishing the history of the North American West. Fans of Western Law and Order history should follow closely the University of North Texas Press and Two Dot/Rowman Littlefield's fast growing catalog of Old West titles.

BEST OF THE REST

National WW Norton & New York, NY

University, Law & Order University of North Texas Press & Denton, TX

University, Regional University of Nevada Press & Reno, NV

Old West History McFarland Jefferson, NC

Trade: Two Dot/Rowman & Littlefield Lanham, MD

BEST WESTERN FICTION PUBLISHER

Five Star Publishing

Five Star Publishing, an imprint of Gale Cengage, is settling in Waterville Maine, publishes quite authors and titles that are other publishers of western fiction. Fans of Western fiction, especially e-book readers, should also be closely following the increase in new releases and new releases from Pinnacle and Wolfpack Publishing, he two international leaders in Western e-books.

BEST OF THE REST

1 National Forge • New York, NY

2 University University of Arizona Press • Tucson, AZ

3 Electronic Wolfpack Publishing, LLC • [illegible], NY

4 Regional Poisoned Pen Press Scottsdale, AZ

5 Mass Market Pinnacle New York, NY

BEST WESTERN BOOKSTORE

ieb and Stuart Rosebrook signed books for fingers at the Arizona Historical Conference in April '10. ©

Gutzon Books

After [illegible] years of publishing Western, Civil War and Indian history books in Arizona, Gutzon has announced its closure in 2011. Contact proprietors Shelly and Gordon Gutzon for more details.

7500 E. Redfield Rd. Suite
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
480-945-8[illegible] • [illegible].com

BEST OF THE REST

1 Large Powell's [illegible] of Books
Portland, OR • Powells.com

2 Medium Collected Works Bookstore and [illegible]
Santa Fe, NM • [illegible].com

While many academics and critics write about Western film history, there is no consistent reflection on the high-profile actor and the making of a film's story on the screen. Jeffrey Richardson's book on Buck Jones, *Riding the Silver Age: Buck Jones and the Birth of the Modern Western*, and Sam Peckinpah's the Director of *The Wild Bunch* (Wesleyan University Press) are notable exceptions in this area.

Small: Sheridan Stationery
Books • Gallery • Sheridan, WY
SheridanWyoming.net

Specialized: The Polarized
Pen Bookstore • Scottsdale, AZ
PensandPen.com

Writer's Haven: Hooked on Books
• Colorado Springs, CO
HookedonBooks.com

BEST OF THE BEST ROUNDUP

Travel History

Heritage travel, travel guides, travel photo and other travel collections continue to be a strong genre in Western publishing. A cross-section of titles from 2016:

The Oregon Trail Book & Activities Map by Mary E. Morrison • University of Nebraska Press

60 on 66: A Photographic Journey by Terrence Heuer. Foreword by Michael Wallis. Schiffer Publishing, Ltd.

The Traveling Years: On the Road in the Tumultuous Sixties by Rick Bass, Linda Bryan and Jill Fitzhugh

Unsung Trails: Minor Arizona Adventures on Horseback by Bernice Eisele • Filter Publishing

Across America and Back: Retracing the Epic Journey of Captain Meriwether Lewis by Mark Ann Hooper • University of Nevada Press

Environmental History and Water

The role of the environment and water in the history of the American West remains a very strong genre across university press catalogs. A cross-section from 2016:

Sons of Midnight Sun: A Memoir by Stories of Arctic Life • Filter Publishing

Floods on the Tracks: Rail Disasters and the Nature of Disaster in the Elkhorn River Valley by Todd M. Kerstetter • Texas Tech University Press

A Thirsty Land: The Making of an Environmental Region by Stephen Mrozowski • University of Texas Press

Cannibals Among Polar Explorers and the Fight to Save Endangered Whales by Thomas J. Wharton • University of California Press

A Natural History of the Mojave Desert by Lawrence R. Walker and Frederick E. Lissman • University of Arizona Press

Women, Race, Family and Labor in the West

Gender, race, family and labor studies dominate many university catalogues. A cross-section of titles from 2016:

Weaving the Indigenous Industry: Navajo Women and the Spanish Frontier, 1650–1900 by Sarah E. Moore Shields • University of Nevada Press

West to Oklahoma by Jerome Weidman • Open Road Integrated Media

James A. Garfield: Rebel, Reformer and Republican by Bill Farley • Montana Press Publishing

Chinese in the Mountain Region: Ranchers, Merchants and the Remaking of Northern Mexico by Alejandra Dubcovsky • Stanford University Press

Polly Pry: The Woman Who Wrote the West by Julie Reviken • Tweetsie

Military, Conquest and Wars in the West

Warfare in the West remains a leading genre for academic and popular history publishers. A cross-section of titles from 2016:

WESTERN BOOKS

1 *Blood Moon, An American Epic of War and Spectacle in the Frontier Nations* by Jason Sedgewick (Simon & Schuster)

2 *Texas Rich* – Western crime novel by Bill Neal (Texas Review Press)

3 *The Commanders: Civil War Generals Who Shaped the American West* by Robert Hicks (University of Oklahoma Press)

4 *Murder and Intrigue on the Montana Frontier: Governor Edgerton, President Watson and the Vigilantes* by John A. Adams (Texas A&M University Press)

5 *The "Trapdoor" Springfield, From the Little Bighorn to San Juan Hill* by John Langellier (Osprey Publishing)

Independent Publishers

Small presses continue to make a strong impact on the Western non-fiction and fiction marketplace. A cross-section selection from 2018:

6 *Valley of Dark Stream* by Janet B. McDonald and Jeanette McDonald (Christian Faith Publishing)

7 *John Chisum, Frontier Cattle King* by Bill Neal (Texas Review Press)

8 *Heavy Memories of Laramie* by Phyllis de la Garza (Silk Label Books)

9 *The Beginning of His Excellent & Exemplary Series of Eighteen Murderous Shoot-Out Novels* by Eighteen Murderous Shoot-Out Novels

10 *How to Cook in Western Camp and Other Measures from the High Desert*, by Mildred P. Beach (Dime Books)

E-Books and Print on Demand

In 2018, Western fiction authors and publishers continued to make the most of the flexibility of e-book publishing as great alternative to cross-section selection from 2018:

1 *Hell Bound*, a Frozen Bounty Novel by G. R. Williamson (Indian Head Publishing)

2 *Good With a Gun: An Annie Oakley Mystery* by Kari Bovee (Sparkle Press)

3 *No Man's Land* by Linell Jeppsen and Jeb Rosebrook (Wolfpack Publishing)

4 *Treasure and Plunder: The Complete Saga* by John T. Wayne (Blackbird Lane Press)

5 *A Book Obsessed: Western Battle in the Classroom: A Western Adventure* by Scott Curtis (Dusty Saddle Publishing)

Self-Published

In 2018, Western authors continued to take advantage of the in- and print-on-demand print and e-books to self-publish a cross-section selection from 2018:

1 *Hell Bound*, a Frozen Bounty Novel by G. R. Williamson (Indian Head Publishing)

2 *The Dictionary to Bitter Creek: A History of Three Western Towns* by Larry Richardson & Tom Richardson (Putnam & Smith)

3 *Tidewater: Tug of the Wind* by Tom Talman (Outskirts Press)

4 *Stories for Campfire Kings: A Normal Family's Legacy* by Debbie Poole-Gipson (Quiet Step Publishing)

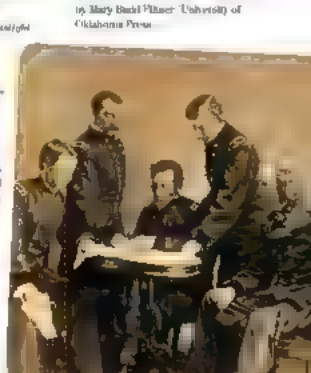
5 *Old West Stories of the American Frontier* by Mark Thompson (Prathena Consulting Ltd.)

Best Western Essays and Short Stories

Short-story authors and essayists remain key contributors to the genre of Western literature. Across-section selection of short story and essay collections from 2018:

1 *The Trading Post and Other Frontier Stories, 1/2 of Max Allen Collins' Nate Heller Saga* edited by H.I. Rumsey (Pine Star)

2 *My Branch, Tree: A Wyoming Memoir* by Mary Budd Palmer (University of Oklahoma Press)



Military history – the West continues to be a popular topic for Western historians and readers alike with Robert Utley's *The Commanders: Civil War Generals Who Shaped the American West* (University of Oklahoma Press) one of the year's best

WESTERN BOOKS

Labor and environmental history are the subjects of two major 20th books on Butte, Montana, a copper mining. *The City that Ate Itself: Butte, Montana and its Expanding Berkeley Pit* by Brian James Leech (University of Nevada Press, 2018) and *Mining Butte's Public Irish Millionaire* by Bill Farley (Mountain Press Publishing)

Erotic Indian: A Collection of Stories and Other Writings by Roberta Conley ed. by Evelyn L. Conley (University of Oklahoma Press)

Virtual Photos, Literature: Discover the Secret Photos by Linda Ray Pratt (University of Nebraska Press)

The Light Shines from the West: A Western Perspective on the Growth of America by Robert C. Hahn (Peterson Publishing)

Weird, Wild Fantasy, Sci-Fi and Horror Western Fiction

This may be a new fiction category for the 21st Century but not a new category for fans of Western fiction. Max Evans' *Bluefeather Follies* in the Secret Service may have set the standard in recent years for this category but going back to Ambrose Bierce and Edgar Rice Burroughs, Western authors have been blending genres. Fans from all generations enjoy this cross-genre category. Here is a sample from the past year:

Chupacabra Meets Billy the Kid by Rodolfo Anaya (University of Oklahoma Press)

Mad Amos Malone: The Complete Stories by Max Dean Foster (Dark Ray)

A Texas Gifted Vengeance by Kevin Wolf (South Star Editions)

The Hunger by Alma Katsu (GP Putnam's)

Gunslinger Vampires by Sean McGuire (Tor Books)

20th- to 21st-Century Western Mystery Fiction

In 2018, the mystery genre maintained its dominant Western fiction. A cross-section selection from the past year:

See Me by Dead by Larry D. Sweazy (Seventh Street Books)

Wolf Point: A Kim Reece Mystery by Kristin Z. Wortham (Poisoned Pen Press)

Lies Come Easy by Steven F. Havill (Poisoned Pen Press)

A Death in Eden by Keith McCafferty (Viking)

Depth of Winter by Craig Johnson (Viking)

20th- to 21st-Century Western Fiction

Fiction authors continued to mine the rich cultural heritage and history of the West for novels that explored the human condition across time and genres. A cross-section selection from the past year:

1 *Don't Skip Out on Me, A Novel* by Willy Vlautin (Harper Perennial)

2 *Rainy Dreams* by James Seghi; a Novel by Mary Clearman Blew (University of Nebraska Press)

3 *Wheeling, A Novel* by Bruce Holbert (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

4 *The Long-Lost Love Letters of Bo Helladay* by David Corbett (Black Cat/Grove Press)

5 *The Return of Kid Cooper: A Novel* by Brad Smith (Skyhorse Publishing)

20th- to 21st-Century Western Nonfiction

In 2008, publishers of Western nonfiction continued to mold their catalogs toward 20th- and 21st-century history rather than 19th-century Western topics. The environment, race, urban and cultural history topics dominate the past year's publications. A cross-section selection from 2008:

1 *The Dog that Ate Itself: Native Movement and Its Unyielding Ideology* by Brian James Leech (University of Nevada Press)

2 *Boom Times: The Frontiersmen Saga of Oklahoma City, Its Chaotic Founding, Its Apocalyptic Weather, Its Puritanical Straitlaced Town, and the Hearts of Becoming a World-Class Metropolis* by Scott Anderson (Council Oak Books)

3 *Indian Country: A Photoessay of Indian Country After World War I* by Thomas Cutler (Yale University Press)

4 *An Elite New Republic: Anglican Jews, Hindu Texas Rangers and U.S. Mormons* by Bob Alexander (University of North Texas Press)

5 *A Good Guide to Mexico: Everything I Learned About Life South of the Border* by Steven Pinker (Viking)

FIREARMS

Old West Firearms

Gunsmiths, manufacturers and gunbelt and holster artisans are dedicated to keeping the Western spirit on target for the most discernable customer

Throughout the year, our Firearms Editor Phil Spangenberger writes about the latest and most interesting firearms stories and newsworthy Old West gun manufacturers, artisans, gunsmiths, collectors, exhibits, books, belt and holster makers, history and events.

In our 2010 annual Best of the West we honor and celebrate the finest Western gun manufacturers, gunsmiths and gunbelt and holster artisans, many of whom Phil has written about this past year. Their dedication to their craft is truly remarkable and their artistry as timeless as it is modern. We encourage you, True Westerners to visit their storefronts when traveling across the West or frequent their shops online. True West's editors believe that these producers of Old West firearms originals — durables and reproductions — will satisfy the most discriminating gun owner, whether a firearms collector, hunter, competitor or professional.

Native son of Cheyenne and grandson of Mangas Coloradas, Geronimo (seen with Geronimo before their surrender in 1886) was an accurate hunter, photographed with his rifle at Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, became an Army scout in 1897.

courtesy Library of Congress (LC-USZ62-75176)

BEST GUN LEATHER ARTISAN

Old West Reproductions, Florence, MT

Old West Reproductions' hand-crafted gun leather products are made in the traditions of the Old West and tooled meticulously after products originally used from 1840 to 1900. Old West Reproductions' President Rick M. Bachman is dedicated to personal customer satisfaction and exquisite leather work.

Website: Old-west-reproductions.com

READERS' CHOICE

John Bianchi Frontier Gunleather
Cathedral City, CA

BEST FIREARM ENGRAVER

Jim Downing, The Gun Engraver
Springfield, MO

For over 35 years—from his shop in the Commercial Street National Historic District of Springfield, Missouri—Jim Downing has built a reputation of excellence in hand work with his graver—a tool on metal blades and fine nib metals. Downing's superior work is so sought after by firearm enthusiasts that he has traveled the globe to engrave guns for customers at Cowboy Action Shooting events in Europe, Australia and across the United States.

Website: Jimdowning.com

READERS' CHOICE

ASA Engraving, Rapid City, SD

BEST COWBOY ACTION PISTOL

Cimarron Firearms Thunderer
Fredericksburg, TX

In 1997, Cimarron Arms founder and president Mike "Texas Jack" Harvey designed the Thunderer, a single-action, highly reliable and durable six-gun that gives today's shooter the looks and feel of the 1873 cattle Philadelphia with single-action simplicity and 21st-century reliability. You can have the best of both worlds in four handsome and practical barrel lengths. The revolver is chambered in a variety of single-action

Old West Reproductions takes pride in [illegible] that looks and feels exactly like what was made 50 or 150 years ago. Owner/operator Rick Bachman's handiwork is characterized by "preserving his style in the old ways, in the old's spirit of no shortcuts." Wyoming Territory, gentle breaking-in leaves and memory belt – prestige belts, which probably were made by A. Mountz

ADVERTISEMENT CONTINUES BELOW

READERS' CHOICE

Taylor's & Company's Smokewagon
Winchester, VA

In the 1880s, skilled and established gunsmiths like Bennett Cub Gun Captured Alive: Customized Charlie Nash Parts a diesel gunsmith of a horse sheriff, and his partner Jack Right Vet. These versatile firearms, including what appears to be a left-single action on Charlie's hip, **Taylor's & Company**, a modern interpretation of the famous 1st. The Snake Wagon Charts, is highly prized by collectors and competitors for its sleek, left-side single action revolver and fast-sighting barrel, and wider Stiffe sights that allows for faster sight acquisition.

Photo © Chronicle Collection/Bridgeman Images. Photo © Taylor Made Firearms/Taylor's & Company

BEST COWBOY ACTION RIFLE

Uberti USA's 1873 Limited Edition Short Rifle Deluxe, Accokeek, MD

The Winchester 1873 short rifle—an iconic and historic American firearm of the 19th century—is available from Uberti USA in limited quantities for 2023 only. Chambered in .357 Mag with a 20-inch octagonal barrel, the 1873 Limited Short Rifle Deluxe features a rich, case-hardened steel frame and lever and an A-grade walnut stock and forend. The rifle has a full-length Winchester-style magazine tube. The rifle is also fully engraved with an original pattern from the 19th century featuring game and scroll patterns.

Ubertiusa.com

READERS' CHOICE

Henry Repeating Arms' The New Original Henry, Bayonne, NJ

BEST ACTION SHOTGUN

E.M.F. Hartford Model 1878 Coach Gun Santa Ana, CA

E.M.F. has manufactured an updated classic with its popular 12-gauge Wyatt Earp 1878 Hammer Shotgun. The side-by-side shotgun with its 20-inch barrel can be easily opened with one hand allowing for very fast loading and extraction of shells. The walnut pistol grip stock is oil-rubbed. The case-hardened frame is engraved with Wyatt Earp. The double-barrel comes in either full-length, half-length or 3/4-length stocks, featuring a side-by-side cocked hammer with a single and safe manual. Shooters and gentlemen in Cowboy Action Shooting events enjoy using the Wyatt Earp.

EMFcompany.com

READER'S CHOICE

Cimarron Firearms Company's Doc Holliday Double Barrel Shotgun, Fredericksburg, TX

BEST SINGLE SHOT RIFLE

Shiloh Sharps' 1874 Long Range Express Big Timber, MT

Shiloh Sharps manufactures nine models of the 1874 Shiloh Sharps and the 1874 Long Range Express is one of the most popular models enjoyed by classic gun enthusiasts. Buyers can customize every gun order individually including several calibers, four grades of wood, multiple metal finishes, barrel length, sights and options. Every barrel, action and accessory are crafted at the 1874 Shiloh Sharps rifle shop in Montana.

Shilohrifle.com

READERS' CHOICE

Uberti's 1885 High Wall Rifle Accokeek, MD

AMMUNITION
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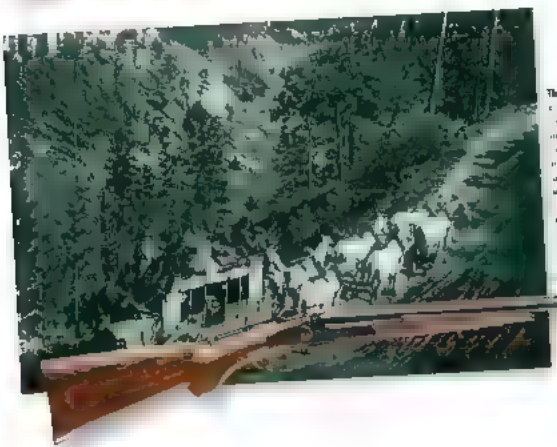
FIREARMS

Billy Dixon sealed his name as a legend at this distance (1,000 yards) shot from his 1874 .50-.90 Sharps Rifle that badly wounded a Comanche warrior at the Second Battle of Adobe Walls, Texas, in 1874. Western firearm enthusiasts will enjoy owning a modern **Shiloh Sharps** recreation of this .45-.90 Sharps. Included is the 1874 Long Range Express "Deluxe" one of their most popular models.



The E. M. F. Company's 1887 Lightning Model 97B Coach Gun evokes an era of Old West competitionwhen every stage driver had a driving partner armed with a double barrel 10-gauge shotgun at the ready, and fearless gunmen kept the peace standing down mobs with a blast of buck shot.

Posed with his Henry .44 caliber rifle, young cowboy is ready for any action he might encounter on the road to Dodge. Old west gun collectors who have an affinity for Henry rifles, like the ones you will be proud to display and use. **Henry Repeating Arms'** New Original Henry Silver Deluxe engraved Edition is the one.

BEST CONVERSATION STARTER

Henry Repeating Arms' New Original Henry Silver Deluxe Engraved Edition, Bayonne, NJ

Henry USA has brought back the original Henry Rifle made entirely in the U.S. and sold. The company states that this Henry Original is true to its 1860 patterns and patents and details identical in every way from the iconic lever to the octagonal barrel, to the half-length magazine tube. The only difference is that the new Henry replaces the long-obsolete rimfire. These models Henry and Henry are specially formulated, hardened bronze receivers with the same grade of steel and the same walnut stocks as the original Henry rifles. Each piece is engraved, gilded and has a unique serial number. Henry's American walnut stocks are hand-selected for

READERS CHOICE

America Remembers' John Wayne 1873 Tribute Rifle Ashland, VA

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AVAILABLE:
357Mag, 45LC
4¾" Round Barrel

www.emf-company.com (800) 430-1310

The Future is Female?

In Westerns, the future is here!

In *Red River* (1948), Howard Hawks and John Wayne's Tough Old Man/Tender Young Man dynamic is explored with a new generation of strong Western women ready to fight it with the West.

COURTESY UNITED ARTISTS

Ever since *The Virginian* (1929), Owen Wister's genre-defining Western novel, female characters have traditionally been portrayed as the civilizers. Even tough as nails Westerner Calamity Jane, the unquenchable frontierswoman, were there to work civilizing their man by making him one of us. But 1950's Hollywood, richly broadened, some might say bludgeoned, from the wagon-train a final chapter, started changing the rules the Western women, played by Katie Jurado

was recently the pioneer of its own, and unlike *Three* women a towering schizophrenic, Marshal Will Kane's Quaker wife stopped not to be the only element he needed in a showdown.

In the current crop of Westerns the female characters have attained to the first that males are now weak evil or otherwise weaker. As the trail wheels could the largest percale camels in America, a showdown a bright contest in the show's core. But while he and the estranged wife,

Hattie's award-winning turned series-mother was one of the challenging roles for female actors including Mae West's above in many starring or supporting as Mary Agnes and Audrey Dalton's provocative interpretation of rancher Alice Eden

UNITED ARTISTS

Veteran actress Dyan Cannon (Ralph Waite) has been nominated for Emmys for her previous appearance on Ontario Alternate in 1981. Meanwhile, in season one of the series, Western, Wood and her female [illegible] Hale and Jennifer Hewitt took center stage of the series drama.

[illegible]

Response to the [illegible] movement. That might be a project get green-lit, but doesn't make any sense and how long development takes. One of the best such films of recent years, [illegible], on which was a pioneer project of its producer-star, Natalie Portman. A director quit, cast members quit, and when the original distributor went bankrupt, who rewrote and released the movie. The Weinsteins company.

It is certainly true if there will be [illegible] way back into Westerns in 2011 but we have ideas to look forward to. We'll [illegible] way of [illegible] and The Sun, the feature film of *Deadwood* and on Netflix. The [illegible] western, a movie starring Kevin [illegible] and Woody Harrelson as the Texas Rangers who nailed Bonnie and Clyde.

played by Lake Bell and Nicholas Cage. It's a hot-tempered daughter played by Kelly Reilly, who is the real family soldier in the stalemate in the country of Western Wales. *Ghost Assassin*, Jasmine's Barbara Weldon is first a [illegible] who shoots her sibling Bill Morland, [illegible] and destruction. "Sam Rockwell" [illegible] a woman who is a battle of wits between several female characters, and [illegible] played by Evan Rachel Wood [illegible] Hale and Danielle Panabaker, who won an Emmy for her performance. The males by and large are relegated to henchmen and villains.

Perhaps the most exciting example of Godless — [illegible] — is a town populated almost entirely by women after the premise of the season 30. A [illegible] Scott's Savage Empire, as well as that of Rhett and the Raven, yet another future [illegible] in which Western writers travel to the past by [illegible] the watch has been [illegible] with little fanfare on the Hallmark channel since 30. It and just begun its sixth season in December.

A disaster wedding for a Western town populated almost entirely by women after the premise of the season 30. A [illegible] Scott's Savage Empire, as well as that of Rhett and the Raven, yet another future [illegible] in which Western writers travel to the past by [illegible] the watch has been [illegible] with little fanfare on the Hallmark channel since 30. It and just begun its sixth season in December.

Probably the most extreme of these role-switching Westerns was [illegible] *Wilding Cowboys*, in which a mismatch suitcase-operator Judith Rawlsall and a [illegible] Mercedes Mel Ambridge. Battle over the mistaken inheritance of Scott Brady as the ranch hall. There's also [illegible] Barbara Stanwyck's Western, her ability to distribute all the lines around her [illegible] [illegible] was unique. More recently, we've had 2013's *Sweetwater*, where the business of Jamie Jones is murdered and the law won't help, she must go after the culprit. Then there are the girl-in-flow [illegible] like 1993's *Heat Girls* with Madeline Stowe and Mary Stuart Masterson, 1995's *Wyatt Earp*, the Albert-American version with Stacy Keach and Earl Kim, and 2006's *Bandidas*, the Hispanic version with Salma Hayek and Penelope Cruz.

It's easy to say that the current crop of woman-dominated Westerns is partly a

In Women Walk Ahead, Jessica Chastain stars as Georgia O'Keeffe, New York avant-garde artist Barbara Weldon, who goes West to paint. Stieglitz [illegible] portrait and is soon caught in the political turmoil of American Indian politics of 1918.

[illegible]

BEST 2018 WESTERN MOVIE

***Ballad of Lefty Brown* (Lionsgate)**

What would happen if John Wayne was murdered and Gabby Hayes had to escape from sidekick to lawman to avenge his partner? That's the fascinating question posed when a known-bigoted sidekick Pete Kowalski is unjustly and wrongly Bill Pullman in the performance of his career), insist blissfully and ruthless the culprit. Written and directed by Jared Moshe, the beautifully shot, often brutal film echoes the tastes raised in *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* and Lonesome Dove while not imitating either.

READERS' CHOICE

***Hostiles* (Lionsgate)**

BEST 2018 TV WESTERN

***Yellowstone* (Paramount TV)**

John Dutton (Kevin Costner in the last of the great old land barons that look to the land defending his ranch and legacy against encroachments like big cities, Dutton's historic and United Nations-like Douglas Ranch over all Montana. With a new season set to hit Paramount Network in June, it's assured with the lines himself. Yes Beth (Kelly Reilly is the best defense in this Taylor Sheridan *Hell on High Water*-*Wind River* series with the highest body count of any family drama in memory.

***Godless* (Netflix)**

BEST 2018 WESTERN FILM BOOK

***Junior Bonner: The Making of a Classic with Steve McQueen and Sam Peckinpah in the Summer of 1971* by Jeb Rosebrook with Stuart Rosebrook (BearManor Media)**

Jeb Rosebrook has written a "making of" book of a good movie seen before the making of a classic movie from the point of view of the man who first conceived the story and was there on pre-production and for every day of the shoot with director Sam Peckinpah and superstar Steve McQueen. Told with insight, humor and scrupulous attention to detail, this highly personal account of the making of arguably the best rodeo picture of all time and Steve McQueen's personal favorite among his films will compel you to see movies with new eyes.

READERS' CHOICE

***Cowboys, Creatures, and Classics: The Story of Republic Pictures* by Howard Kazanjian and Chris Enss (Lyons Press)**

BEST 2018 WESTERN TO STREAM

***Woman Walks Ahead* (A24 Films)**

In the 1890s Brooklyn painter Catherine Weldon (Jessica Chastain) travels across country to Standing Rock Reservation, determined to paint the portrait of Sitting Bull (Michael Greyeyes). She finds herself embroiled in the troubles of Sitting Bull and the Sioux first with the government's attempts to take their land, then with the rise of the Ghost Dance. With Sam Rockwell as the voice of the Army and Wakes as general, the history is explored in private strokes and the film is a surprisingly even-handed and compelling telling of the turbulent times. Now

READERS' CHOICE

***Any Bullet Will Do* (Sony Entertainment)**

d created by John Sheridan and John Linson, Paramount Network's ambitious w the most successful Western series in decades. Filmed on location in Montana and Utah, the series stars Kevin Costner as Montana rancher John Dutton, seen in the saddle with co-star Brecken Merrill as his grandson Tate, in saddle and Denim Jr. hands as ranch hand Colby.

BEST 2018 BLU-RAY WESTERN MOVIE

***The Big Country* (50th Anniversary Special Edition) (Kino Lorber)**

William Wyler's film of Donald Hamilton's novel is truly *big*, without being ponderous like the similarly themed *Duel in the Sun*. Sea captain James McKay (Gregory Peck) has come West to marry elegant Patricia Terrill (Carroll Baker), inadvertently finding himself into a triple feud between Patricia's father (Charles Bickford) and the pseudo-feudal farmer-ess Leslie (Jean Peters) and a land-holding gentleman Buck Hannassey (Burl Ives). It is thrilling, with powerful support from Alan Hennings, Chuck Connors, and a star-making performance by Charlton Heston. The Blu-Ray contains beautiful special features.

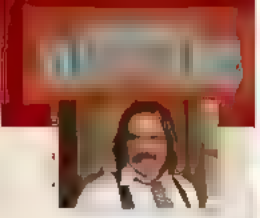
READERS' CHOICE

***7 Brides for 7 Brothers* (Warner Archive)**

BEST 2018 WESTERN MOVIE COLLECTION

***The William Castle Western Collection—The Fastest Guns of the West* (Mill Creek Entertainment)**

Before he became the king of gimmicky thrills horror films like *The House on Haunted Hill*, William Castle was a B+ western director at Columbia

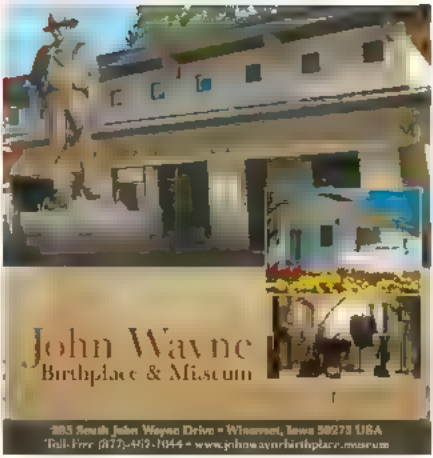


TO DEADWOOD AND THE NO. 10 SALOON

After a 12-year hiatus, Gene Autry's Melody Ranch Studio is getting remade back into *Deadwood* for the feature film follow up to the series. Leon Rippy above returning as Jim Nuttall proprietor of the No. 10 Saloon where Wild Bill Hickok drew aces and eights moses. "It'll be interesting to see the set. I know it's moved in time a decade after Deadwood was burned down and rebuilt. There'll be electricity. And Deadwood had telephones prior to San Francisco that was Hearst's doing, terrible Mr. Hearst's disaster."

Rippy can't wait to work with series creator David Milch again. "I think he's one of the few the word brilliant only applies to. Those still among us will be happy to return it. I think Milch wants everybody in on a little bit of their stuff and give the fans a chance to see them again."

Of course working with Milch was the original *Deadwood* had its challenges. You never knew until 10 at night when ten to fifteen new pages would come. If you were working tomorrow. So it was always a fly by the seat of your pants deal. Once a scene was a wrap on my trailer door was ajar and the guy hands me these pages," said "It's this fat romp over the end. Actually, they're fighting for it right now. So I need to learn this between the trailer and the mound stage." Yeah that keeps your dweeb sense. It goes back into the rhythm of the show. Rippy notes. "I'm brushing up on my profanity.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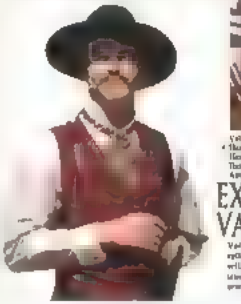

A creative collaboration between Val Kilmer & Tom Hirt, the official hat maker for the film Tombstone. Exclusively available from Val Kilmer's studio, Hirt makes this superb beaver felt hat smoothed entirely by hand. The distinctive "Doc Holliday" front curl is an exact replica of the hat worn by Val Kilmer in the film Tombstone

Val Kilmer in the signature silk lining
Hand-curled brim in "Doc" style
Hand-Sewn C. crushed, pressed and finished
Hand-dyed of leather interior lettered
A photograph by Val Kilmer personally selected to appear

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Pictures and behind the eight novels Tombstone and the feature Westerns in this set. Initiating successes in these beefy low-budgeters, Empire's 4 Rebels, Inc. to make a version of Rodeo Rampage (1950) the way That Was the West (1953) to take in Star-spangled Rhythm (1942) and years of Western history starring in Wonderful Nebraska and Jesse James vs. the Daltons. Peppered with second-tier stars like Gene Montgomery, Donald Morgan, Richard Denning, Robert Stack and Lee Bonker this collection highlights how talent has entertainment a filmmaker with more imagination than money can produce.

READERS CHOICE
The Damage Kid Collection
(Mill Creek Entertainment)

BEST 2018 TV DVD

High Chaparral: Season One
(Shout Factory)

Creator David Dortort's second installment Western series, *The High Chaparral*, broke all the rules. Its first theatrical, had established, and others had slavishly followed. Unlike the Cartwrights, the Montoya were Spanish and John Cameron Lee Evenson was often a bully, his brother-in-law Mexican Manuel Montoya was a gentleman. His sweet wife Victoria is killed by Apaches in episode one, and he made a surprise marriage to Victoria Modesty Linda Cristal in episode two. *High Chaparral* pioneer TV Western cinematography with panoramic on-location action and multi-camera coverage work, and this boxed looked better.

READERS CHOICE
A Man Called Shenandoah
(Warner Archive)

BEST 2018 SILENT WESTERN

***The Covered Wagon* (1923) (Kino Lorber)**

Fast and furious merged seamlessly in the making of James Cruze's epic story of an Oregon Trail crossing saga, who also has the near where he grew up, along the Utah-Nevada border and returned for authentic wagons and got more than a believed. Intent by offering a theme who'd made the journey. Although now only Alan Hale Sr. as the villain is familiar, the cast included former s. W ordinary Ann Sheridan, who also with almost documentary attention to detail future director Dorothy Arzner as editor future director Delmer Daves Cowboy, the original *3:10 to Yuma* as pony man and future star Tim Mc as an Indian liaison.

READERS CHOICE
***The Devil Horse* (Alpha Video)**

BEST 2018 WESTERN DOCUMENTARY

***Sign Talk—with Deadline* (Alpha Video)**

In this 56½ half-hour short filmed at a powwow at the Blackfeet Reservation on Two Medicine River Carl Tim Mc[illegible] and the chiefs of several tribes tell the fascinating history of Indian sign-language. There was real concern that sign language—thrown out mostly by whites—would be lost. Mercy was an unusual pioneer indignant general [illegible] Wyoming before coming to Hollywood. He was considered one of the most remarkable of its true pioneers. The film is narrated [illegible] Robert [illegible] ullman

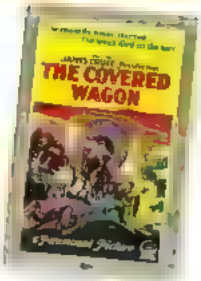
READERS CHOICE
***The Men Who Built America* (Stephen David Entertainment)**

BEST 2018 FOREIGN WESTERN

***The Sisters Brothers* (Annapurna Pictures)**

Don't be misled—it the jokes—an unfunny trailer clips is a humorous but solid [illegible] ue Western with a thoroughly original premise. An inventor (Riz Ahmed) has developed a way to revolutionize prospecting, and the antiheroes Sisters brothers John C [illegible] Reilly and Joaquin Phoenix are dispatched to steal the method and kill him. Shootings ensue and Romantic ly French actress Rebecca Farrgaux Anahurst, is quirky plot and fine performances Mein with unexpected intimacy

READERS' CHOICE
***Five Fingers for Marseilles* (Oscorb'd Entertainment)**



Kino Lorber Incorporated's 5.1 silent Western *The Covered Wagon* will be hailed by cinephiles worldwide for the company's beautiful restoration of one of Hollywood's most important and epic films. Filmed on locations on the Utah-Arizona border, Cruze's production can be seen as a precursor to Raoul Walsh's *The Big Trail* (1930)

[illegible] Robinson Crusoe

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WESTERN WEAR

Getting Western

Across the West artisans produce and sell the finest made Western clothes, tack, hats, boots and jewelry

In 1889 photographer W. Irving Adams photographed a youthful Theodore Roosevelt who died prematurely at 60 after only six months in office. Standing with his favorite hunting pony in his Best Western clothing and gear when he was a rancher and deputy in the Dakotas.

Growing up in Southern California, we had two Western wear stores within a few miles of our home. King's Western Wear in Van Nuys and Nudie's Western Wear in North Hollywood. I loved going in both stores knowing that I might be lucky enough to come home sporting a new cowboy hat, boots, jeans, belt or vest shirt. At eight years old, I was ready to go to Arizona for the summer and get Western.

Although King's and Nudie's have long since shuttered their doors, hundreds of artisans and shops remain in historic Main streets and rural home workshops are keeping the spirit of the American West alive through their craftsmanship, hard work and determination to their customers and communities. As I say, West we consider these two and workers our partners in maintaining a bond between our shared past and our present Western pride. The partnership reflects their passion for Western heritage and through their work and

Children's Corner – This exhibit was the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame and Museum in Amarillo, Texas. It features the history and accomplishments of the women who went West to join the Ol' Ranch Way. Here, three cowgirls are seen world famous as trick riders, sharpshooters, actors and two time World Champion Lucille Mulhall and her cowgirls.

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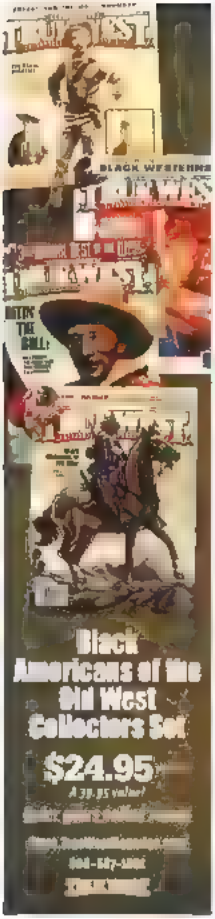
...support. They are keeping alive the crafts of our past, silver work, jewelry, leather, saddlemaking and forging.

In our 30th annual Best of the West we honor and celebrate these artisans and their dedication to crafting the finest in Western wear and tack. We encourage and invite all readers to seek out their shops at festivals where traveling artists like Western Horse Expo feature their unique wares. Your support of these small businesses owners and craftsmen and craftswomen will keep the spirit and heritage of the West thriving. And whether it be for a Western rodeo finals and boots every day for work, or you are buying a custom hat, boots for the first time, getting Western is just the right way to live.



WESTERN WEAR

Edward Curtis's 1905 portrait *Juanito, Mescalero Apache* depicts a fine Mescalero Apache chief's garb and calls to his warpath. Indian fashion changed over the years, but fringe remained a staple of cowboy and Indian clothes.

[illegible]

BEST WESTERN BOOTMAKER

Old Gringo, San Diego, CA

The renowned old-style boots made by the company in Santa Ysabel, California, in 1900 with the goal of producing superior, well-designed boots with the best leather craft possible. Old Gringo remains known for boutique Western wear, vintage contemporary, rock star and original Mexican designs.

READERS CHOICE

TIE Lucchese Boots, El Paso, TX, Rockbuster Boots, El Paso, TX

BEST WESTERN HATMAKER

Catalena Hatters, Bryan, TX

Catalena Hatters has made its international reputation amidst industry professionals and hat connoisseurs as the best custom handmade felt hat maker in the world by making every hat by hand—not at a time. Catalena Hatters is also famous for its felt hat restoration services and deep inventory of the best vintage cowboy hats.

READERS CHOICE

TIE O'Farrell Western Hats, Santa Fe, NM Knudsen Hat Co., Golden Gate, CA

BEST WESTERN CLOTHING MAKER

Recollections, Hawks, MI

Specializing in Victorian (including Civil War Old West and pioneer) and Edwardian era designs, Recollections also has a wide variety of styles from the late Baltimore Belle Georgian and Regency eras, the Roaring '20s, and 1940s noir. It offers a full selection of hats and other accessories to help the customer complete their fashion goal.

READERS CHOICE:
Miller Ranch, Denver, CO

BEST PERIOD WESTERN CLOTHING MAKER

Patricia Wolf, Smithville, TX

For three decades, Patricia Wolf has been a pioneer in the Western lifestyle industry, specializing in spurs, fashion accessories, and bone and ranch décor. Women and men alike love ranch dying, buckles, and Western heritage admire Wolf's Western Americana charm.

READERS CHOICE
TIE: Recollections, Hawks, MI
Scully Leather, Oxnard, CA

...ual delights of the Bear Boots Ranch in Nye, Montana, modest entertaining turn of the ...ast century Western fashion with vast Montana seated cowboy hats and ornate bandannas while the modish gentleman sports knee length dress in contrast to the feminine mostly shapely, fringed leather gloves, gunbelt and ... gun.

...n May, 1911 ... Angeles Bodies ... ...ted ... ...

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The Highway is My Home

From the Mississippi to the Pacific Coast, adventure awaits the heritage traveler ready to take the road less traveled across the West

Truth be told, I love a long road trip across America and have enjoyed dozens of them over the years, some more and some a bit less. My first travel memories are with my parents and sister Katherine driving from Los Angeles to Phoenix, the city giving way to the desert, the shimmering mirages of sunlight on the highway and impressive mountains giving glimpses beyond. I long before to be the one to take my late father Jeff Roberts back to Portland in August of 2018 with my love of the extended road trip. He repeated my story and our wild stories about jobs and relatives as a young man on solid cross-country trips and unforgettable trips from Virginia to Arizona.

We enjoyed a couple of those driving trips together, pledging to reach where it was in as many small cafes as possible, and to try to stay in a small motel every night of the month. We took in park-site breakfasts such as the one we had at Marta's Kitchen east of El Paso, Texas, and meet in the town Derby in Arapahoe, Nebraska. The coffee was hot, the eggs were perfect and the service was exceptional. We also never forgot to be thankful and appreciate good Samaritans like the one who drove my dad a couple dozen miles from a rest stop to the next exit, Nebraska after he packed the brace in my truck. Still grateful today and always will be.

Like my dad, Time Travel's editorial team has encouraged our readers to plan a road trip out West and discover history and America first-hand. From the gilded age to the mythical West of the Wild West bonus, the hard-working men and women who dedicate themselves to multitudinous Western heritage. We encourage our readers to visit and frequent these wonderful Western towns. Drive small towns to big cities, museums to historic sites. We have updated the Time Travel Triumph of these Travel Awards with a new directory of historic hotels, restaurants and saloons are huge. In all regions, using it on your next Western road trip. Most important, we recommend you hit the road West and make those memories to share and inspire the next generation to call the highway their home.

On October 1, 1890, Congress established Yosemite National Park (right), America's third national park, after Yellowstone and Sequoia. Photographer Carleton Watkins helped popularize the allure of the area's valleys and its natural wonders, such as the central Sierra Nevada through his photographs, including this stunning 1866 portrait of Nevada Falls.

HERITAGE TRAVEL

Winter is a wonderful time of year to visit and tour in Prescott, Arizona, one of the best known events held in early December is the Annual Prescott Frontier Christmas Parade and the Annual Courthouse Christmas Lighting Spectacular, a great tradition for 60 years.

Cowboy Hall of Fame, Wyoming, Spectacular viewing on Buffalo Bill Cowboy of the West's left. Five museums and exhibiting the museums, events held throughout the season, making the northwestern Wyoming city the perfect seasonal time for a history of the Old West.

BEST PLACE TO LIVE LIKE AN OLD WEST COWBOY (WINTER)

Prescott, AZ

The original Territorial capital of Arizona, Prescott celebrates its heritage throughout the year at local museums, hotels and restaurants. The city has many winter activities including the popular Christmas Parade, Annual Prescott Frontier Christmas Parade, Courthouse Christmas Lighting Spectacular, and Santa Hall's Annual Frontier Christmas. The Spirit of Yesteryear Past Visits Prescott Days, Days, the Frontier Days Rodeo Parade and the Wild Western Rodeo every Fourth of July.

Last Chance Gulch

READERS' CHOICE

Sandera, TX

BEST PLACE TO LIVE LIKE AN OLD WEST COWBOY (SUMMER)

Cody, WY

From the great outdoors to museums, Cody is one of the West's most Western towns in which one can live like an Old Westerner today. Start at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, then head outdoors to tour, shop, eat and drink. Don't miss the Cody Nite Rodeo, Irma Hotel, Cowfights, Old Trail Town and trail riding at one of the local stables. Hang your hat at Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel downtown. It contains the only chandelier made entirely of antlers and features a one-of-a-kind historic guest ranches.

Cody Nite Rodeo, Cody

READERS' CHOICE

Sheridan, WY

BEST OLD WEST GUNFIGHTER TOWN

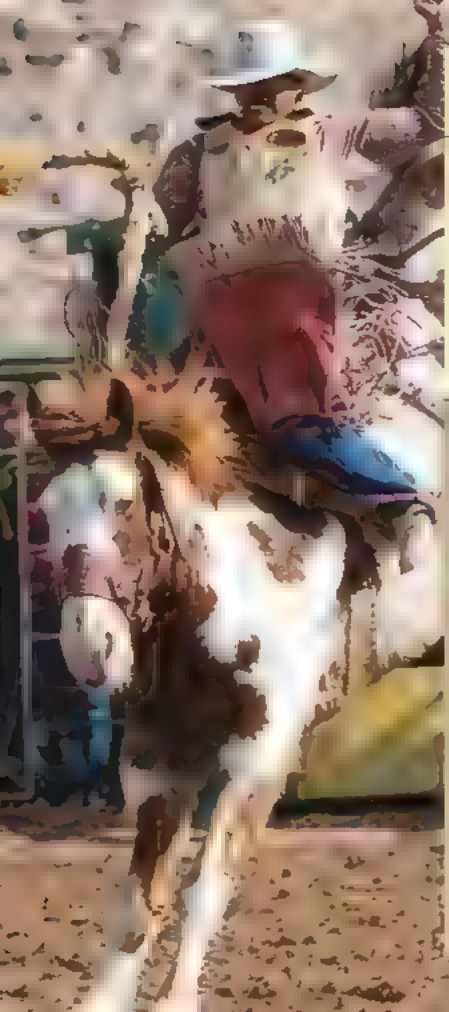
Dodge City, KS

Take a trolley ride into Dodge City to discover the life of the Old West in the Queen of the Cowtowns at the Boot Hill Museum, Inc., Historic Way Museum, Trail of Tears, Home of Stone and Kansas Heritage Center. Every summer gunfighters re-enact the gunfight scene along "Front Street" at the Boot Hill Museum.

Gunfighter re-enacting

READERS' CHOICE

Tombstone, AZ



Historic

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Wickenburg

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HERITAGE TRAVEL

The Old Cowtown Museum in Wichita, Kansas, is one of the state's premier Old West living history centers. Visitors to the museum get the opportunity to step into the everyday life of Wichita when it was a key outpost on the famous Chisholm Trail in the 1870s.

BEST PRESERVED PIONEER TOWN, RECREATED

Old Cowtown Museum, Wichita, KS

Wichita's 40-acre Old Cowtown Museum is one of the premier living history centers in the state of Kansas. Dedicated to recreating the atmosphere of the frontier town's Wild West past when hundreds of thousands of cattle flowed into the city's stockyards off the Chisholm Trail, visitors to Old Cowtown "relive" 1865's 1880s history through artifacts in its 50 18th-piece permanent collection. Exhibits tell a history-packed story of the city's founding, the story of Wichita's transformation from a frontier settlement to a modern urban. Docents and staff bring Wichita's past to life for visitors of all ages through hands-on skills activities, special events and role-playing programs.

READERS CHOICE

Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer, Grand Island, NE

BEST OLD WEST ART TOWN

Taos, NM

For well over a century, the ancient northern New Mexico community of Taos has been a success for artists and visionaries. A cosmopolitan, proud of its multicultural heritage, Taos became a destination and welcoming city for artists after Ernest Blumenschein and Bert Phillips moved there in 1898. In 1915, the Taos Society of Artists was founded, and today, 100 years later, Taos is known internationally as one of the world's premier spots for artists and art lovers. Begin your tour and stay in the area's many B&Bs, then browse the city's premier galleries, shops, inns and restaurants.

Taos, NM

READERS CHOICE

Toppenish, WA

BEST TOWN FOR HISTORIC ENTERTAINMENT

Prescott, AZ

Mile-high Prescott was the original Territorial capital of Arizona and is rich in Western history with a walkable historic downtown with numerous restaurants, saloons and art galleries. A festival is held on the historic Courthouse Square almost every weekend, and every Fourth of July Prescott Frontier Days—including the parade and the World's Oldest

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HERITAGE TRAVEL

Visitors to Dodge City's Boot Hill Museum in the summertime will enjoy strolling past the Old West gunfighter re-creations and viewing displays in the museum's re-created Front Street. Before and after the World Famous Boot Hill Gunfighters show, visit the award-winning Boot Hill Museum and take in the Long Branch Variety Show.

Lisa Hill | Boot Hill Club

Rodeo—entertain themselves at the arena and downtown. The city's local Old West museums, Sharlot Hall, Smoki and Phippen Art Museums also offer lectures and programming throughout the year. Visit Prescott.com

READERS CHOICE
Durango, CO

BEST HISTORIC DOWNTOWN
Deadwood, SD

The city of Deadwood was founded in 1876 after gold was discovered nearby. Those drawn to the area were a motley mix of settlers to rebuild the city in brick and stone. Today, visitors to the legendary Black Hills' mountain will enjoy walking the streets of the National Historic Landmark, a designation Deadwood has enjoyed since 1961. When in the city, Wild Bill Hickok admirers Jane, Seth Bullock, Trixie Concord, A. Shermanians made famous, don't miss a tour of the Bullock Hotel, the Historic Adams House, Adams Museum, Mount Moriah cemetery and one of the many experiential tours offered locally, including the Lawrence Patrick Guided Walking Tours. Deadwood.com

READERS CHOICE
Old Trail Town, Cody, WY

BEST HISTORIC TOWN TOUR
Laramie, WY

Best known today as the home of the University of Wyoming, Laramie's heritage as an Old West city begins in the 1800s along the overland route of the Union Pacific rail line. The many railroad-related dramatic quickly gained a wild reputation for lawlessness. Today's visitors can tour E. Ivinson, stroll from Laramie's early years on the pages of Laramie Trail sponsored by the Laramie Area Tour Society. Visit the trail to take the Wyoming Territorial Prison State Historic Site, historic Ivinson Mansion, the historic Laramie Plains Depot, Union Pacific Train Station and the ghost town of Sherman at the Ames Monument. VisitLaramie.com

READERS CHOICE
Bisbee, AZ

NIPTON, CALIFORNIA

We've got a thing for wide spots in the road. You know, those little roadside attractions with one or two businesses, maybe two houses and a stop sign, or two.

Nipton, California, has a general store and a small hotel, both built in 1924. They have five rooms in the hotel, California, and little trailers and maybe four or five cabins parked on the desert between the tightly clustered items of the town. It's a wonderful, an allegedly haunted, walk with humanity.

The service in Nipton is a bit spotty, but that is a part of the charm.

Insider tip: Ask for the Clark Blue Room.

Want to stay at the historic, although, Hotel Nipton and Nipton Trading and Mercantile Co.? Visit them at Nipton.com. Hotel Nipton, (760) 854-2581.

Come delight in our historic spaces, well-appointed rooms, fine dining, and Glenwood Springs' area attractions.

HOTEL COLORADO
1893

HotelColorado.com (800) 544-3998

HERITAGE TRAVEL

...Historic Natural Bridges Monument [illegible] is one of the earliest and most significant American fur trading and military outposts in the Rocky Mountain West... today visitors touring the well-maintained grounds and restored buildings will enjoy guided tours and engaging living history events as they walk where the West history happened.

Location: [illegible]

BEST PROMOTION OF A HISTORIC PLACE

Deadwood, SD

Historic Deadwood, South Dakota, is one of the premiere Old West cities to visit in the Western United States. With its historic ties to the Black Hills Gold Rush, Deadwood has been South Dakota's destination for quintessential entertainment since its inception in 1876. With numerous hotels, casinos, restaurants, saloons, museums and events throughout the year, including Wild Bill Days, Days of '76 and the Wild West Sturgis Days Festival, there's [illegible] has an attraction, event and destination for every one of all ages and [illegible]

Deadwood, [illegible]

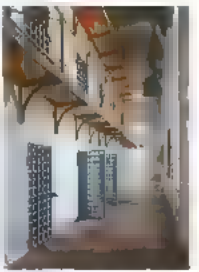
READERS CHOICE

Dodge City, KS

BEST OLD WEST TOWN TO LIVE IN

Prescott, AZ

Prescott's Courthouse Square and historic downtown welcomes visitors to enjoy the mile-high city with its heritage hotels, Whiskey Row shops and saloons.



A tour of the Wyoming Territorial Prison State Historic Site (above) in Laramie, Wyoming, is one of the many activities one has to miss when on an Old West tour of the Albany county seat. Among its admirers of the prison, which held Butch Cassidy, Bob Ford and future Butch Cassidy impersonator William Wilcox.

Location: [illegible]

Est. 1893

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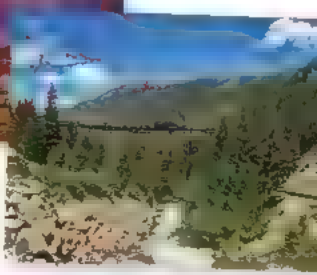
19th Avenue • Osage, 5 blocks West of Santa Fe Dr.

The Strater Hotel (left) in downtown Durango, Colorado, is the perfect place to begin your journey in Old West vacation and enjoy nightly entertainment at the Henry Strater Theatre and the great variety of restaurants and saloons in the very walkable city.



Eight miles long and open to the public, the Railroad is a unique visitors' railway. Originally built to get to the rich silver mines above the city, the Georgetown Loop now carries passengers who would today set its special character into the mountains.

and tomahawks are galleries, restaurants, museums and antique shops. The 3rd adjacent to Prescott National Forest is also home to Yavapai College, Embry Riddle University and an extension of Northern Arizona University.

Copyright

READERS CHOICE
Tombstone, AZ

BEST HISTORIC CEMETERY OF THE WEST
Concordia Cemetery, El Paso, TX

El Paso's historic Concordia cemetery is home to 58,000 beloved and more notable souls including the old friends gunslinger John Wesley Harden. Walk the manicured cemetery for the famous heroines and common folk who rest eternally in Concordia. Buffalo Soldiers, Texas Rangers, civil War veterans, early Mormon pioneers and some local legends. Concordia Cemetery org

READERS CHOICE
Boot Hill Cemetery, Dodge City, KS

BEST PRESERVED HISTORIC FORT OF THE WEST
Fort Laramie National Historic Site
Fort Laramie, WY

Originally established as a private fur-trading fort in 1834, Fort Laramie evolved into the largest and best-known military post in the Northern Plains before its abandonment in 1890. This grand old post witnessed the entire sweeping saga of America's Western expansion and pivotal resistance to it. Stroll on their trail! Tour Today's geology at Fort Laramie National Historic site with experienced living history center with expert ranger led discovery and a great collection of restored and well-maintained Officers' Row buildings and popular living history events. Usually be summer months, including a Fourth of July

READERS CHOICE
Fort Davis National Historic Site
Fort Davis, TX

BEST HISTORIC RAILROAD OF THE WEST
Georgetown Loop Railroad
Georgetown, CO

Built in 1884, Colorado's Georgetown Loop Railroad is one of the engineering wonders of the Rocky Mountain state's last six narrow gauge railroads. Passengers will enjoy the thrill of riding on historic rolling stock pulled by a steam-driven locomotive across the new High Bridge.

Georgetown Loop Railroad

READERS CHOICE
TIE: Cumbres & Toltec, Chama, NM, and Antonito, CO
Durango & Silverton Railroad, Durango and Silverton, CO

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Barrels, hats, and one of the original trail cattle brand irons. Bottom, cattle drivers muster their herds at Dodge City, Kansas, on the Great Western Cattle Trail. Today, the Boothill Cattle Company contributes to the town's Wild West past with performances in period costume behind the Gunsmoke County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

BEST PRESERVATION OF A HOTEL OR WESTERN BUILDING

The Cliff House at Pikes Peak Manitou Springs, CO

From its humble beginnings as a single story hotel the current accommodations as a luxury resort the Cliff House at Pikes Peak has been a landmark in history and development in Manitou Springs for nearly 140 years, beginning in the 1880s. The Cliff House was an internationally famous resort for the rich and famous. In 1997 major renovation work began on the famous historic inn, and since 2007 under new ownership the Cliff House has been fully restored and modernized to its historic elegant standards of hospitality. The 307 guest inn is spread over thirty beautiful suites, each uniquely decorated in the style of the late 1800s, complemented by modern services and amenities. Meals and events will also enjoy the gourmet menu at the Cliff House Dining room and relaxation in the Red Mountain Bar & Grill. *Text continues online*

READERS CHOICE

The Occidental Buffalo, WY

BEST PRESERVED HISTORIC TRAIL

Great Western Cattle Trail TX, OK, KS, NE, CO, SD, MT

Although the Great Western Cattle Trail and the Ellsworth Trail have not received federal National Historic Trail status the Great Western Cattle Trail has been traced, researched and documented with roadside markers every ten to ten miles from its southernmost points of origin on

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the Texas-Mexico border all the way to its furthest outpost north in Canada. Over 500 volunteers from three countries, across a 4,800-mile trail, helped lay a road and set the seven-foot white-rock-and-lettered historic markers of the Great Western Cattle Trail.

Caldwell, western mile-Point, with

READERS CHOICE

National Lewis and Clark Historic Trail
MO, KS, NE, SD, ND, MT, ID, WA, OR

BEST PRESERVATION EFFORT OF THE WEST

Dodge City/Boot Hill Museum
Dodge City, KS

Take a festive ride down Front Street in search of the thrill of the Old West in the Queen of the Cowtowns at the Boot Hill Museum. Full-figure Wax Museum. Trail of Painted Ponies. Home of Stone Hill Kansas Heritage Center. Don't miss a tour of historic Fort Dodge, the historic Santa Fe Trail Trading Posts, Santa Fe Depot and Dodge City's Historic Walking Trail. Every summer qualifying re-enactors hold thrilling events along Front Street and the Boot Hill Museum.

[illegible]

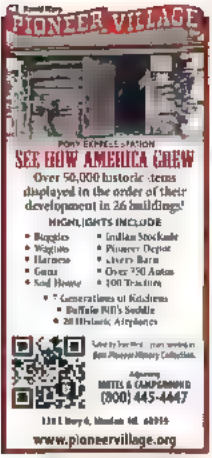
READERS CHOICE

Fort Chadbourne, Bronte, TX

The three-day Defeat of Jesse James Days Festival above, in Northfield, Minnesota, began in 1948 as a 4th of July festival and has since become one of West's most loved Old West re-enactment events.

The re-enactment of the James-Younger Gang's failed attempt to rob the First National Bank in Northfield is a main source

[illegible]



The Strater Hotel in Durango, Colorado, opened its doors in 1887 and has been one of the West's grand dames of hospitality ever since. Today, guests can enjoy the area's modern activities, outside dining and entertainment while experiencing their old-fashioned charm. Photo courtesy of the Strater Hotel

BEST "WHO SLEPT HERE" HOTEL

Hotel Colorado, Glenwood Springs, CO

Since 1893, the luxurious Hotel Colorado has been a favorite haunt of the Rockies' rich, famous, presidents, celebrities and the rich and famous. Today, the Glenwood Springs landmark welcomes guests from around the world to enjoy its famous hospitality, fine dining and relaxing Rocky Mountain atmosphere. A favorite of Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft, the hotel was also frequented by notorious outlaws who hid out in the seclusion of the mountainside. Modern-day visitors wanting a special treat should request a stay in the Molly Brown Suite, named in honor of the

READERS' CHOICE

The Occidental, Buffalo, WY
Historic Sheridan Inn, Sheridan Inn, WY

BEST HERITAGE HOTEL

Strater Hotel, Durango, CO

The Strater Hotel is the historic district of Durango's standout, and the perfect place to stay when vacationing in the Animas River Valley city made internationally famous by the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad! Opened in 1887, the Strater is luxuriously maintained and preserved with antiques throughout the historic inn and its well-appointed rooms. You'll enjoy an evening in the Diamond Belle Saloon and dinner in the Mahogany Grill. Strater.com

READERS' CHOICE

Historic Sheridan Inn, Sheridan, WY

BEST HERITAGE B&B & BREAKFAST

Chamberlin Inn, Cody, WY

Visiting Cody, Wyoming, seeking quiet downtown accommodations? Great breakfasts and elegant surroundings should rule out the historic Chamberlin Inn. Guests can choose from several rooms and suites, a guesthouse residence and cottage and garden studio apartments. A conservatory is a wonderful spot to read and relax, or enjoy drinks from the bar after Shoshone Canyon. The second floor of the inn houses the Buffalo Bill Historical Center's downtown facility.

READERS' CHOICE

Virgil's Corner Bed & Breakfast
Tombstone, AZ

Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday were known to frequent the Big Nose Kate's Saloon in Old West days. Today, Tombstone, Arizona, remains a top destination located on historic Allen Street. Big Nose Kate's Saloon celebrates Tombstone's infamous past every day. Guests enjoy a chance to have a drink at the bar, the only one in town to survive the 1881 fire.

Photo courtesy Chuck Wallis

BEST HISTORIC SALOON OF THE WEST

Big Nose Kate's, Tombstone, AZ

Big Nose Kate's Saloon stands in the same location as the original boot hill in 1880. The night before the Gunfight Behind the OK Corral, on October 25, 1881, the Earp and the nine Mountain brothers were present in the saloon. While the original Earp Justice in the great fire of May 25, 1881, the saloon has restored the building, moving from the basement to the main floor. The only one to survive the fire. So don't miss a chance to enjoy an old browsing, and meet on the same long bar that housed the infamous lawmen and outlaws that made Tombstone the town so tough to die.

Big Nose Kate's web

READERS' CHOICE

Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel, Cody, WY

BEST HISTORIC RESTAURANT

The Buckhorn Exchange

Denver, CO

Opened in 1893, the Buckhorn Exchange holds the distinction of being Denver's first restaurant. Each year, Denver's railroad workers established every Friday to exchange their paychecks for food and a token for a free lunch and a beer, which filled the restaurant's seating. Today, the National Historic Landmark welcomes guests to share a meal of history and enjoy the menu known for its gourmet wild game buffalo, prime rib and classic elements.

The Buckhorn web

READERS' CHOICE

The Palace Restaurant and Saloon

Prescott, AZ

The Flying J Wranglers (right), a popular Western music band regularly plays at the world-famous Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium - Rainbow Man Museum, where not performing at the symposium the Flying J Wranglers entertain guests at the Flying J Ranch Supper & Western stage show in nearby Alto.

COURTESY PHOTO BY BONNIE COOPER

The Chandler Chuck Wagon Cook-off is held annually the second week of November at the Historical Ranch and has been one of the most popular events in the city's region since 1978. Fans of the Old West and local residents gather to feel their Ranch spirit will enjoy the great food and friendly, family atmosphere as demonstrated by the cowgirls forever learn serving up a hot home meal to the public.

COURTESY PHOTO BY CHANDLER

BEST CHUCKWAGON COOK-OFF

Chandler Chuck Wagon Cook-Off
Chandler, AZ

In 1978, the cook-off celebration as held every November, the Old West style cook-off has quickly become a signature chandler community event with competitors returning from all over the country. Festival-goers will enjoy the one-day event at Tumbleweed Ranch where chuck wagon competitors wear period dress and prepare their meals with period equipment and cooking methods as if they were on an 1880s cattle drive.
Chandlercookoff@tumbleweedranch.org

READERS' CHOICE:
Cheyenne Frontier Days, Cheyenne, WY

BEST CHUCKWAGON SHOW & SUPPER

Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium
Ruidoso, NM

Founded by legendary New Mexico cowboy singer Ray Herrera in 1989 the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium has grown from its humble roots in downtown New Mexico, to one of the oldest annual festivals celebrating the cowboy way of life. Held at the Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino, every October the three-day event is still celebrating its 30th anniversary. The festival offers visitors world-class cowboy music, a championship chuckwagon cook-off, numerous events for the whole family and a Western Expo with over 110 vendors.
Cowboysymposium.com

READERS' CHOICE
National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration, Lubbock, TX

BEST HERITAGE GUEST RANCH

Concha Hills Guest Ranch, Magdalena, NM

Concha Hills Guest Ranch in the San Mateo Mountains is in the heart of New Mexico's cattle country and the historic Magdalena Stock Driveway. Guests will enjoy the rural location at 8,000 feet with year-around opportunities for horseback riding, ranching activities, exploring and hiking. Right: relaxing in the southwest-style adobe main house and guest quarters, stargazing at night, making new friends around the campfire and the relaxing solitude of a private walk on the ranch property. Here's to for a few days or a few weeks, but according to its visitors no matter what, you will "always be guests and leave as family."

Editor's Note: The ranch has limited internet; the best way to contact the owners is by mail at [illegible]

[illegible] Road
Magdalena, NM 87825
[illegible]

READERS' CHOICE
Nunnewill Guest Ranch, Bridgeport, CA

Museums History & Culture

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Out Door Adventures
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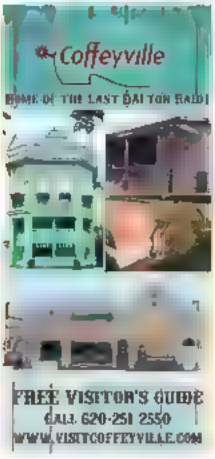
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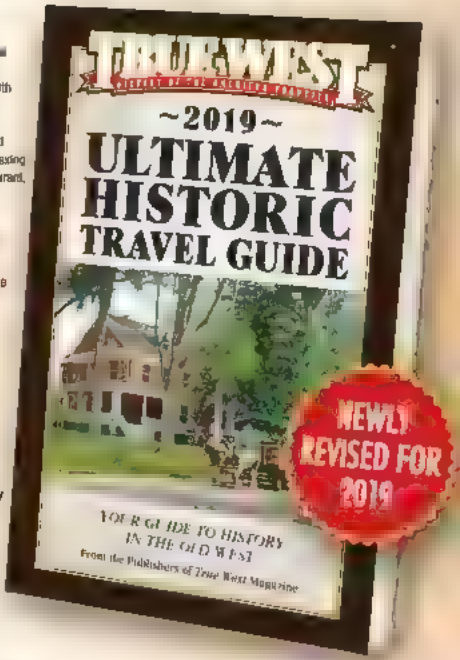
True West magazine has inspired travelers to take the road less traveled and explore [redacted] West. The 2019 True West Ultimate Historic Travel Guide has been carefully updated with recommendations on historic restaurants, saloons and hotels. Anyone who wants to discover a region from the ground up—and immerse in its local history—will enjoy relaxing and soaking up the past in a historic restaurant, saloon, hotel, lodge, inn or guest ranch.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HERITAGE TRAVEL

Since July 4, 1888, the World's Oldest Rodeo (left) in Prescott, Arizona, has been entertaining audiences on Independence Day. Today, Prescott Frontier Days is an eight-day festival that features rodeo, arts & crafts, performances, dances, mock parades and competition including the fan favorite, bull riding.

Mark Lyons and Jeff Vanuga/Prescott Frontier Days

BEST COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration, Lubbock, TX

The National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration is held every September in Lubbock, Texas, and is one of the biggest annual events in the West Texas city. The Cowboy Poetry Gathering, with dozens of performers, is one of the centerpieces of the three-day festival, which includes a chuckwagon cook-off, numerous Western equestrian events and Native heritage demonstrations, family events, and the ever-popular Ranch Parade of the Horse.

Lubbock.org

READERS CHOICE

Arizona Cowboy Poets Gathering
Prescott, AZ

BEST COWBOY MUSIC GATHERING

Heber Valley Western Music & Cowboy Gathering, Heber City, UT

In late October 2010, the Heber Valley Western Music & Cowboy Gathering celebrates its 25th anniversary festival in Heber Valley, Utah. Entertainment for all ages includes regional favorites to international stars of Western music and cowboy poetry, including the Mountain Man Trappers Camp, Buckaroo Fair and Mounted Shooters events.

Heber.com/Heber-Valley-Western-Music-Cowboy-Gathering.com

READERS CHOICE

Red Stragall Cowboy Gathering & Western Swing Festival, Fort Worth, TX

BEST OLD WEST MOMENT RE-ENACTMENT

Defeat of Jesse James Days
Northfield, MN

Held the first weekend after Labor Day every September in Northfield, Minnesota, the Defeat of Jesse James days offer a thrill-a-minute reenacted re-creations of the failed Jesse James gang robbery of Northfield's First National Bank on September 7, 1876. The three-day event includes programming for all ages, but the highlight every day is the Raid Re-enactment—twice on Friday, four on Saturday and two on Sunday—with enough action to keep Hollywood close to ensure you leave believing you were there on that fateful day in 1876.

Defeat.org

READERS CHOICE

The Little Bighorn Battlefield, Between Crow Agency and Garryowen, MT
Bandera Cattle Company, Bandera, TX

BEST OLD WEST RE-ENACTMENT GROUP

Six Guns & Shady Ladies, El Paso, TX

The El Paso-based troupe Six Guns & Shady Ladies has entertained audiences all across the country since Bernie and Melissa Sargent founded it in 1988. With nearly 50 skits, the Wild West re-enactment group brings humor and history to every show, with thrilling gunfights, including the famous "Four Dead in Five Seconds."

Sixgunsandshadyladies.com

Illustrated.com

READERS CHOICE

Prescott Regulators & Their Shady Ladies, Prescott, AZ

BEST WILD WEST SHOW

Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, Cody, WY

The Rocky Mountain Dance Theatre's Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, premiered in 2015 in the theatre and has already scheduled its second opening year in June 3–July 29, 2017 Wednesday to Saturday evenings with a matinee every Saturday.

Held in the Historic Cody Theatre in downtown Cody, the musical celebrates Buffalo Bill Cody's dream of becoming the world's great famous entertainer and includes cast members portraying many of the showman's famous friends, including Annie Oakley, Sitting Bull and Wild Bill Hickok.

codyBillWildWestShow.com

READERS CHOICE

Whiskey Row Shootout, Prescott, AZ

BEST HISTORIC WESTERN RODEO

Pendleton Round-Up, Pendleton, OR

Since 1910, the Pendleton Round-Up has been held in the same location with no locations advertising "The Original Heritage Culture Event" resembles in the open arena of the West" with its wooden chutes and unique tunnel entrance alley. The Round-Up is always held the second week of September, with the popular Westward Ho! Parade on Friday and Happy Canyon Pageant held every night Wednesday to Saturday.

Pendleton.com

READERS CHOICE

The World's Oldest Rodeo
Prescott, AZ

Doc Holliday Redux

Get the complete package!

Brand new 3rd Edition of The Illustrated Life & Times of Doc Holliday, and a signed and numbered "The Doctor Will See You Now " serigraph with a certificate of authenticity.

This large, museum quality eight-color limited edition serigraph of Doc Holliday at the O.K. Corral is featured in Bob Boze Bell's "The Illustrated Life and Times of Doc Holliday." The image is 22"x 35" on 26" x 40" conservation grade paper. Each piece is hand-pressed, each color is applied separately. These signed and numbered serigraphs are genuine works of fine art, and include w a certificate of authenticity signed by Bob Boze Bell

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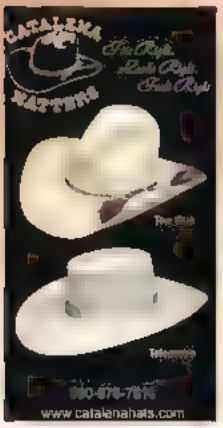
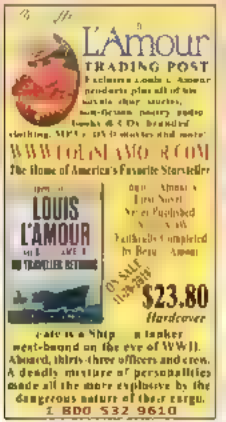
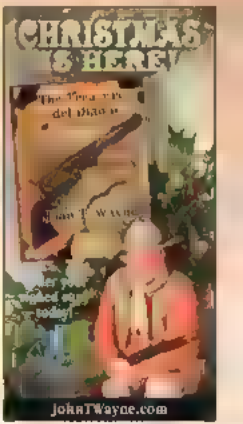
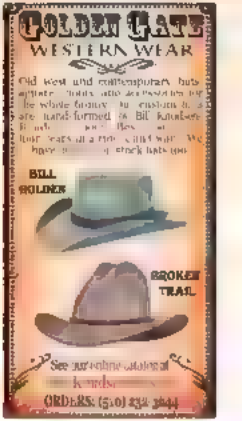
TRADING POST



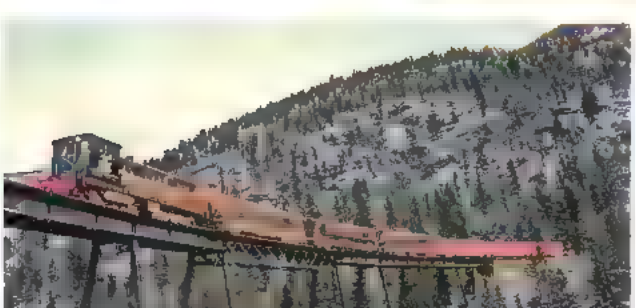






Western Roundup

for January 2019



SANTA'S NORTH POLE ADVENTURE!

[illegible] through January 1! Santa passes on presents from the North Pole [illegible] by helicopter, ski bunny and ice bullfrog during the original, one-hour, [illegible] throughout the holidays, weekends 10a–5:30p. • [illegible]

ART SHOWS

ELEVENTH ANNUAL PLEIN AIR NATIVE AMERICAN FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

Rabbit Ears Pass, CO. January 2. [illegible] artists gather annually to display their best in pastels, pottery, baskets and beadwork at the base of Rabbit Ears Pass. [illegible]

CAREFREE FINE ART & WINE FESTIVAL

Carefree, AZ. January 4–20. High Sonoran Desert [illegible] scenes depicted by southwestern and Native American artists at this art and wine festival. (480) 488-3686. • [illegible]

ADULT ONLY

BRIAN LEBEL'S OLD WEST SHOW & AUCTION

Shows Jan. 11–January 15, 7:30p. Bill of period knives at this annual show & auction one of America's artistic. (480) [illegible] • [illegible]

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN MUSEUM'S HERITAGE DAYS

Apache Trail, AZ. January 5. [illegible] festival celebrates and supports the Superstition Mountains and Apache Trail. Rabbit Ranch. (480) 983-4888. Superstitionmountainmuseum.org

HOLIDAY

NEW YEAR'S EVE SKUNK TRAIN

Fort Bragg, CA. January 1. Ride the New Year aboard the Historic Skunk Train. Redwood Railroad [illegible] • [illegible]

POETRY GATHERINGS

COLORADO COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

Golden, Colorado. Festival where poets perform verses to [illegible] Jan. 4–6, Jan. Rabbit [illegible] Grange, 1010 Washington Ave. [illegible] • [illegible]

STOCK SHOWS & RODEOS

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW

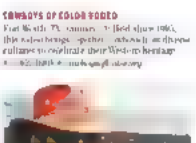
Denver, Colorado. The [illegible] this show [illegible] and horse sales and seminars, plus rodeo events at National Western Complex. [illegible] • [illegible]

FORT WORTH STOCK SHOW & RODEO

Fort Worth, TX. January 19–Feb. 3. Celebrity Bull Riders [illegible] Fort Worth's [illegible] Invitational Rodeo [illegible] • [illegible]

COWBOYS OF COLOR RODEO

Fort Worth, TX. January 31. Bull riders, bareback broncs, [illegible] and more [illegible] culture to celebrate their Western heritage [illegible] • [illegible]



FOOTWEAR AWARDS RECEPTION

[illegible] AZ. January 18. John Flores and [illegible] presented with the [illegible] Footwear Award [illegible] • [illegible]

TWOGO.COM

[illegible] • [illegible]

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Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian and the Ask the Marshall column is a permanent fixture in True West magazine. He has been answering readers' questions about the Old West for more than 30 years. Send your questions to Marshall Trimble, c/o Ask the Marshall, True West, P.O. Box [illegible]

Goyahkla or Geronimo?

Did the Apache call their great leader Geronimo or his original name, Goyahkla?

Al Valentine
[illegible]

Geronimo, a prominent raider and shaman who is a folk hero to many Native Americans, was originally named Goyahkla. The name "Geronimo" is a corruption of his given name. Often called "the last of the Apache warriors," he was such a fierce and like-to-prosecute warrior that the Apache soldiers presented the band of Indians at the Fort Sill Indian Territory in Oklahoma. They had great respect for Geronimo as the Mexican government had put a bounty on Apache scalps, and soldiers for anywhere from multiple and three thousand. As a result, he was enemy of the Mexicans and Americans alike. So it's unlikely that the Apache would have used the Mexican name for Goyahkla.

Apache warrior Geronimo at age [illegible]
[illegible] Geronimo by Stanley L. Klos, courtesy Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma

What books on frontier horses would you recommend?

Gene Kay
[illegible]

Marshall recommends Will James's [illegible] including *Smoky, The Cowhorse*, *Horses I've Known*, and *Lone Cowboy: My Life Story*. Many of his books have been made into movies.

Did US cavalry soldiers wear yellow kerchiefs, as depicted in the movies?

David Lane
Fresno, [illegible]

Historians were not military uniform specifications was applied. But there were [illegible] in battle during a dust storm, still help keep

In *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon* (1949), John Wayne wore a yellow scarf.

a richer warmer in winter, or it might just protect his neck from the hot sun. Sometimes a lieutenant's wife could secure enough material to make matching neckerchiefs for her husband's troop. But often, the soldiers made do with whatever they had.

But yellow was not a favored color since it made for an easy target. In fact, the uniform of the campaign cavalryman bore little resemblance to the yellow-striped and yellow neckerchief image of Hollywood fantasy. As Capt. Charles King noted, on the long scouts to Arizona, "you could not have told an officer from a private."

Tom Horn left threatening notes on the doors of alleged rustlers in the Montana/Wyoming region. Were any handwriting comparisons made between the notes and known samples of Horn's handwriting?

Chuck Carter
Provo, Iowa

I asked Larry Ball, author of *Tom Horn: In Life and Legend* and he replied, "I am not aware that any handwriting comparisons have ever been made. In fact, I have never seen one of the notes and am not aware that any note is still extant. Should one turn up, it would be a simple matter to compare it with Horn's existing correspondence."

What can you tell me about living with consumption in the Old West era?

Paul Sorbaro
Phoenix, Arizona

Consumption is an early term for tuberculosis. People suffering from it were also called "lungers." For a time, in some areas, it was considered a romantic condition, afflicting artists and writers. In reality, it was a terrible disease, often fatal. Doctors in the East often advised those who'd contracted it to move to an arid place like Arizona.

Many did so and lived long lives, while others succumbed to it. For the most part, tuberculars were not quarantined, in part because it was believed to be hereditary, not contagious, until 1892. At that point, many were consigned to tent cities, segregated from the general population. Still, some folks—like Doc Holliday—freely roamed the West, often coughing blood into handkerchiefs and self-medicating through alcohol or drugs. Many slowly wasted away until their ultimate deaths.

What was drug use like in the Old West?

Shayne King-Ferguson
Irvine, California

Drugs were pretty common and were legal—whether for killing pain or recreational use (or as an additive in Coca Cola).

The most popular painkillers were whiskey, morphine, opium and laudanum. These could be purchased over the counter at any drugstore. Initially, morphine was the most common narcotic on the frontier.

It was first extracted in 1804 and was the first drug derived from a natural plant. It remains one of the most powerful pain relievers because it acts directly on the central nervous system. It's also one of the most addictive. Too large a dose can be deadly. Commercial marketing began in the 1820s. After the invention of the hypodermic needle in 1853 its use expanded.

Morphine was hard to make and difficult to obtain as its cousin opium—introduced by Chinese immigrants—became the drug of choice in the West. Prior to 1909 there were no restrictions on its import or use. It became a cure for morphine addiction, but as the prime ingredient in laudanum (along with morphine and alcohol), it was used for headaches, menstrual issues, psychological problems, and pretty much anything that ailed you. Opium dens (where the drug was smoked) operated in the Chinese sections of towns. They featured private rooms, couches, beds and prostitutes.

What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

Most people don't realize *Tombstone* was not initially a box-office failure as some think. Released on Christmas Day, 1993, it really wasn't promoted at all by Disney/Buena Vista and many reviews were absolutely scathing with terms such as "aggressively unwitty," "ruinitious hyperrealism," "irrelevent" and "campy" peppering their comments. But then an interesting phenomena occurred, word of mouth. By the end of its second week, it was in the black and went on the gross $20.2 million after seven weeks.

The genius behind this movie is the film's first director and screenwriter Kevin Jarre. His absolute insistence on period correct costumes, saddles, firearms and dialogue brought an authenticity to the screen that is seldom seen. When the Earps arrived in Tombstone, you could almost taste the grit in the air and smell the horses on the street. Add to that the marvelous cast he assembled and the film was a cut above.

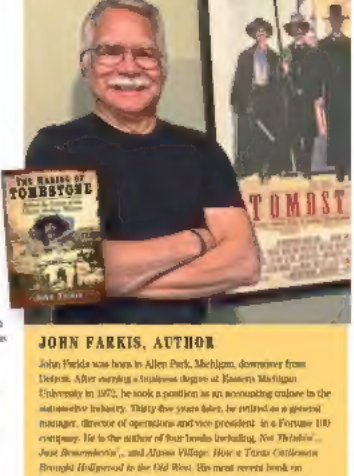
Not many know that Billy Zane's sister, Lisa, was originally cast in the role of Josephine Marcus. In fact, Jarre wrote the part with her in mind, as she had been his girlfriend at the time. When Dana Delany came onboard, Lisa was moved to the role of Big Nose Kate. After Jarre was fired, Lisa left the set and was replaced by Jeanna Pucula.

The reason why no one has followed up on Tombstone is that for many people Westerns seem so passé. Generally, those who appreciate this sort of film are of a certain age and they value strong characters, an effective storyline and magnificent scenery.

The one person behind the scenes who held it all together was Adam Taylor, first assistant director. If it wasn't for Taylor, the film wouldn't have been made. Director Costner was brutal in his treatment of Taylor. After the day's filming was over, Buck Taylor (Turkey Creek Jack Johnson) would find his son in a trailer, head in hand, shaking with fury. But the next day, Adam Taylor would be out there again doing what he was supposed to do.

The best advice I ever received came from my father: "Try your hardest, the very best and good enough rarely is."

What history has taught me is that what you think you may know, isn't always true. Rarely are events simply random or happenstance. If you peel away the layers, it's usually more complex than not. Wyatt Earp was not all pure and honest. The Clantons and McLaurys were not all evil and corrupt. Cattle-rustling, politics, partisan news media, altercations and aggression, and misunderstandings and provocations (deliberate or unintentional), all culminated in the historic shootout at the O.K. Corral. It simply wasn't a question of a misdemeanor arrest gone wrong.



JOHN FARKIS, AUTHOR

John Farkis was born in Allen Park, Michigan, downriver from Detroit. After earning a business degree at Eastern Michigan University in 1972, he took a position as an accounting trainee in the automotive industry. Thirty-five years later, he retired as a general manager, director of operations and vice president in a Fortune 100 company. He is the author of four books including, *Not Yet Idiots*..., *Just Remembers*..., and *Alamo Village: How a Texas Cattleman Brought Hollywood to the Old West*. His most recent book on the making of the film *Tombstone* was released by McFarland in December 2018. John and his wife, Jean, are currently enjoying retirement in their lake home, along with their dog, Bibbi.

My first job was working for my dad in his trucking company. Changing tires on tractor-trailer rigs quickly taught me this was not something I wanted to do for the rest of my life.

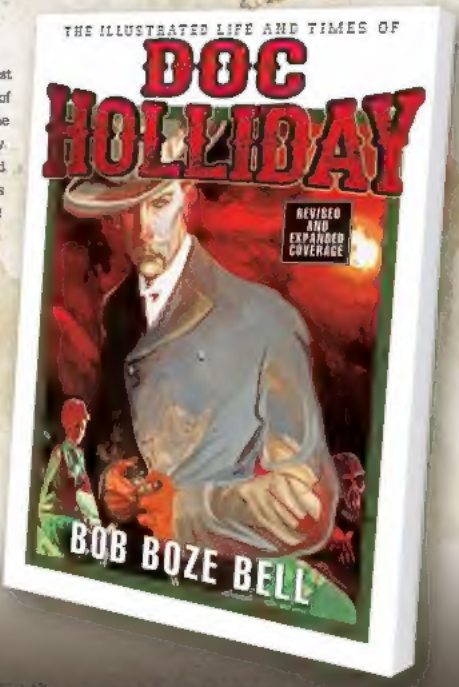
I never dreamed I would be so lucky as to marry Jean. Not only is she my best friend and a constant source of love and inspiration, she also literally saved my life twice!

Although it may be sacrilegious, given the books I've written, for my money, the best Western ever made is *The Wild Bunch*. With intense violence, multiple camera placement and ground-breaking slow-motion action sequences, Sam Peckinpah's film was both creative and revolutionary. An absolute masterpiece. *Tombstone* comes in an extremely close second.

The problem with Hollywood is sequels, remakes and CGI. Give me John Ford, Howard Hawks and Henry Hathaway any day. Although Marvel films are well-done and extremely entertaining, nothing beats a good, old John Wayne Western.

My favorite place in the West is Monument Valley and Moab. Truly, this is "where God put the West."

Just Finished In Time For The Holidays



Bob Boze Bell has just completed the third edition of his definitive chronicle on the life and times of Doc Holliday. This completely updated version fills in the gaps bringing forth all the untold stories and discoveries since the first edition was published 24 years ago. *The Illustrated Life and Times of Doc Holliday*, Third Edition, is in full color and features a wide array of Bell's amazing art depictions of the American West's most beloved gunslinger.

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